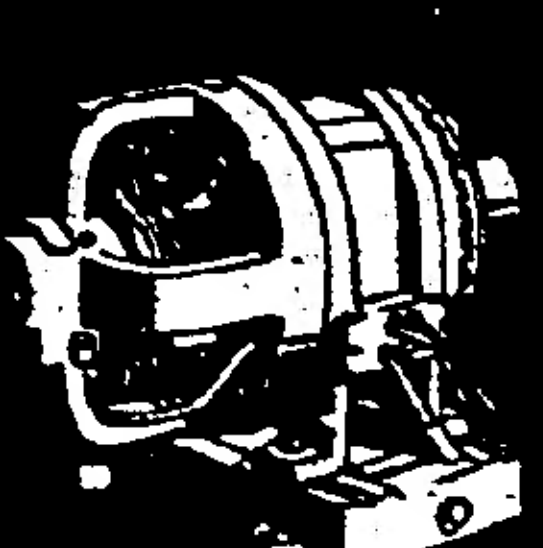


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# The Hongkong Telegraph.

(ESTABLISHED 1861)

**United States Tires**



Are Good Tires

689-0 四拜禮 號三十月十英港香 THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1919. 日七月九 SINGLE COPY: 10 CTS \$36 PER ANNUM.

## TO-DAY'S BUDGET DEBATE.

### STRONG CRITICISM BY UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS.

### MR. SEVERN EXPLAINS GOVERNMENT HOUSING PLANS FOR KOWLOON.

### INTERESTING SPEECH BY H. E. THE GOVERNOR.

This morning, the Colony's Budget was discussed in the Legislative Council, on the second reading of the Bill to apply a sum not exceeding \$11,173,226 to the Public Service for the year 1920. His Excellency the Governor presided. Speeches bearing on many of the features dealt with by His Excellency in his remarks on the introduction of the Bill a fortnight ago were delivered by Unofficial members, to which H.E. the Governor replied.

#### SENIOR UNOFFICIAL MEMBER'S SPEECH.

The Hon. Mr. Lau Chu-pak said:—Sir,—As the senior unofficial member of this Council for the time being, it is my privilege to speak on behalf of the unofficial members on the subject of this Bill. Except what will be specially stated as the expression of my own views, the observations I am about to make have the full concurrence of my unofficial colleagues. In addition to my remarks, some of the other unofficial members will address this Council either by way of giving utterance to their individual opinions, or in amplification of some of my observations. I will now proceed to deal with certain items in the draft Estimates, taking them in the order as they appear therein. The first item happens to be one on which I have to express my individual opinion, although I believe that my unofficial colleagues more or less share it. I refer to "Assessed Taxes" on page 8. This item shows an increase of nearly \$112,000, and it would be interesting to know whether this increase is due to more new houses having been built since the current Estimates were framed, or merely to re-assessment of old buildings. Several complaints have been made to me by the Chinese that the steady increase in rents has been due to certain houses having been over-assessed on account of adjoining houses of equal value fetching higher rentals. The assessor was perfectly right in putting the same rateable value on a house that produces a smaller rent as on a similar structure adjoining, which yields a better revenue to its owner. But the fact that the higher rent might have been forced up by the owner, in order to obtain a higher value for his house, should not be lost sight of by the Government. The owner of the house yielding the smaller rental naturally raised the rent on account of the higher assessment, with the result that house rents generally have advanced by leaps and bounds. I admit that the question of assessment in the circumstance described is a difficult problem, but I commend the matter to the careful consideration of the Government as one intimately connected with the prevailing high cost of living. The next item on which I wish to say a few words is "Assessed Taxes, Special War Rates." The discontinuance of these rates immediately on the signing of the Peace Treaty created at the time a very good impression among the Chinese who said that although the impost had to cease automatically, as required by the Ordinance, the Government could have easily, had they so wished, found excuse to continue it by means of an amending ordinance, or by calling the tax some other name. The action of the Government had a result more far-reaching than they had probably anticipated, to the notice of the Chinese General Chamber of Commerce, of which I am the Chairman, that some of the men who were arrested and fined or sent to goal for unlicensed hawking during the early months of this year, had applied for but been refused a licence on the ground that already a sufficient number of licenses had been issued. The Chinese ask me to plead on behalf of these poor people for a more liberal policy. Some of these men come to Hongkong with a few dollars (probably their whole fortune) in order to earn an honest livelihood as hawkers. When arrested and fined, with the possible loss of their entire stock-in-trade, they inevitably go to swell the ranks of the unemployed and of rogues and vagabonds; or, worse still, may be driven to thieving. It would be far better to have more licensed hawkers, who can be controlled by the police than that a hardship should be inflicted on poor but honest people, or that the Colony should have in its midst a host of undesirables. I hope that this representation will receive the sympathetic consideration of our energetic Captain Superintendent of Police.

On page 9 of the Estimates appears the item "Kowloon (West) Ferry Licences" which shows a revenue of nearly \$119,000. The unofficial members are of the opinion that as a cheap ferry service would tend to help the spread of the native population from its present congested area in Victoria to the other side of the harbour, the Government should obtain from the lessees a reduction in the fares, especially in that for third class, against a reasonable rebate in the present rents paid to the Government.

Arising out of the item "Money Changers' Licences" I would ask that the embargo on the export of subsidiary coins from the Colony, which entails hardship on the people may be withdrawn at an early date. Since the matter was taken up by the Chinese General Chamber of Commerce, with the co-operation of the Chinese banks, the premia on Hongkong subsidiary coins have disappeared. Moreover, our small coins and bank notes are again at a discount in Canton and the adjoining districts, and it does not now pay any one to take these moneys from Hongkong to such places. The reason for the embargo therefore no longer exists.

The revenue from "Opium Monopoly" shows a decrease of \$1,500,000, and the explanation given in the note against it is that a decrease in consumption of opium is expected. We should like to know whether the decrease is the result of a policy of the Government or is due to a diminishing demand for the drug, or to a probable increase in the quantity of opium smuggled into the Colony. Without expressing our opinion in any way, we desire a fuller explanation for such an enormous shrinkage in a principal item of our revenue.

We find that the number of Pawnbrokers' Licences has increased, and we wish to record our opinion that where there are too many pawnshops, gambling inevitably springs up or largely increases, with an attendant increase in crime. We trust that this point of view may receive the attention of Your Excellency.

Passing now to "China Companies Fees" on page 12, I wish to offer for the consideration of the Government a suggestion which has the approval of my unofficial colleagues. Owing to the unrest prevailing in the interior of China, the number of business men who have transferred their commercial activities to this Colony, which affords them security and protection, is large and is daily increasing. If it could be done, I should like to see British protection afforded to all Chinese companies registered here, outside this Colony. In that event, Hongkong would assuredly become increasingly popular to the Chinese business men, and what is more, British prestige in China would be greatly enhanced. I know that this is an Imperial question, and one that is beset with many difficulties,

but none the less I would urge Your Excellency to give it your consideration. There is an estimated decrease of \$1,000 in "Prison Industries." If you will turn to page 58, under "Prison, Other Charges," you will find that the increase in expenditure in the item "Subsistence of Prisoners" is explained as being partly due to an increase in the number of prisoners. Since the number of prisoners has gone up, how is it that the prison industrial labour has yielded, or is expected to yield, a smaller revenue? Whatever the cause, we should like to be enlightened on this point.

The gross receipts from the Kowloon-Canton Railway (page 14) is estimated to amount to \$482,000, while the working expenses, special expenditure, interest on the inscribed stock issue of 1906 together with the Sinking Fund at 1 per cent. thereon, are expected to amount to \$1,136,184, thus showing a deficit of over \$654,000, as is shown in foot-note 3, on page 119. If, therefore, it is for no other reason than a commercial reason, the Government should make every effort to get our railway linked up with the Canton-Hankow Railway, which would undoubtedly result in a considerable increase in the traffic on our line. The railway could also be rendered more popular by certain improvements, but it would take up too much of the time of this honourable Council for me to detail them here. If Your Excellency desires it, I shall be glad to submit my suggestions at a later date.

The item "Interest on Government Houses Furniture" on page 18 is estimated to amount to \$290 next year. We presume that this interest is payable by the Governor on the value of furniture in rooms occupied by him as his living quarters. We consider it somewhat niggardly on the part of the public to require the Governor to pay for the use of furniture provided by them as a matter of necessity. Even if this is done in other Colonies, there is no reason why the practice should continue here. Let us take the lead in this small matter, as we have done in one or two larger matters in the past, and abolish the system; and most likely our sister colonies will follow suit. In connection with this question, we invite attention to the item "Rent of Government Furniture" on the same page. This is evidently rent paid by officers living in Government quarters in which furniture is supplied by the Government. If our suggestion regarding the Governor's furniture is adopted, the privilege should be extended to the other Government officers, the amount involved being only \$170 a year in their case.

I now come to the Estimates of Expenditure. In the Estimates of the Harbour Master's Department, we suggest that provision may be made for a launch and, say, two fairly high-power motor-boats. The launch is to be used for towing junks and smaller crafts to the harbour of refuge in typhoons and storms; while the motor-boats are to serve as life-boats, which can at the same time perform ordinary harbour duties.

Under "Other Charges, Import and Exports Department," the sub-heads "Fuel" and "Packing Expenses" show no reductions, in spite of the statement in your Excellency's Budget speech that much less opium was expected to be boiled next year, and also in spite of the falling off in price of coal that has taken place since the current Estimates were passed. It is true that the amounts inserted for next year need not be all spent; but the provision of a sum larger than what will actually be required does not conduce to economy.

In connection with the Estimates of this Department, we desire to take this opportunity to urge the early abolition of the trade restrictions introduced owing to the exigencies of the war, particularly the regulations governing import and export permits, which are causing great inconvenience to the general public, and are

(Continued on Page 4)

## REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

### THE SHANTUNG PROBLEM.

### QUESTION IN THE COMMONS.

London, October 22. In the House of Commons, replying to Mr. Entwistle in regard to China's not signing the Peace Treaty, Mr. Cecil Harmsworth quoted the statement of the President of the Chinese Republic on September 15, that China had not signed owing to its dissatisfaction with the Shantung clause.

### AMERICA'S STRONG ATTITUDE.

Washington, October 22. In the Senate, Mr. McCumber, a member of the "mild reservation group of Republicans" introduced a number of "compromise" reservations to the Peace Treaty, dealing with the withdrawal from the League on the application of Article Ten, the Monroe Doctrine in Shantung, and the inequality of voting strength in the League assembly. Mr. Jones proposed that the Senate should attach a paragraph to the ratification of the Treaty providing for the United States to withdraw from the League in two years unless the German conditions are fulfilled, including the restoration of Shantung to China.

### PACIFIC ISLANDS.

### EX-GERMAN PROPERTIES BEING DIVIDED.

Melbourne, October 22. The Commonwealth Government has passed the Nauru Agreement Bill, providing for the ex-German islands of the Pacific south of the Equator to go to Australia and New Zealand, whilst those north of the Equator go to Japan.

## SPECIAL TELEGRAMS.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

### RETURNED SOLDIERS.

Singapore, October 29. A draft Ordinance has been issued in Penang dealing with the case of ex-soldiers who return to the Colony having to re-learn their drill from others who have not seen the real thing. The Governor may direct that they be placed on the General Reserve and also enrol themselves in any Defence Corps.

### FIRE AT SHANGHAI.

Shanghai, October 29. A fire which caused Tls 20,000 damage occurred in the apartments and offices in the Raven Trust Building on the Maloo.

## TO-DAY'S EXCHANGE.

The closing rate of the dollar, on demand, to-day was 4s 5 11-16d.

## THE WEATHER.

Forecast—fine. Barometer—29.97. Temperature 2 p.m.—80. Humidity 2 p.m.—63.

## THE GYMKHANA.

### PROSPECTS OF GOOD SPORT.

The Gymkhana on Saturday, it is expected, will provide good sport, provided the Clerk of the Weather remains in a good mood. Some of the good jockeys will not take part, as they will be in Shanghai for the Races, which commences on the 5th proximo. The fields should prove good. The last Gymkhana was a record one for betting. There is no reason to expect a falling off in this respect on Saturday, for good sport is certain. The Gymkhana Club is, we hear, going to install an electric bell from the judges' stand to the pari mutuel stand to check the selling of tickets before a race is actually started. By kind permission of Captain R.G.H. Henderson, C.B. and Officers, the Band of H.M.S. Hawkins will play at the Gymkhana. Including the Bandmaster, there are 24 musicians.

## DON'T FORGET.

### TO-DAY.

Theatre Royal—Vanity Fair: Fifth Edition—9.15 p.m.  
Coronet Theatre—5.15 and 9.15  
Victoria Theatre—9.15 p.m.

### TO-MORROW.

Coronet Theatre—5.15 and 9.15 p.m.  
Victoria Theatre—9.15 p.m.

### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1.

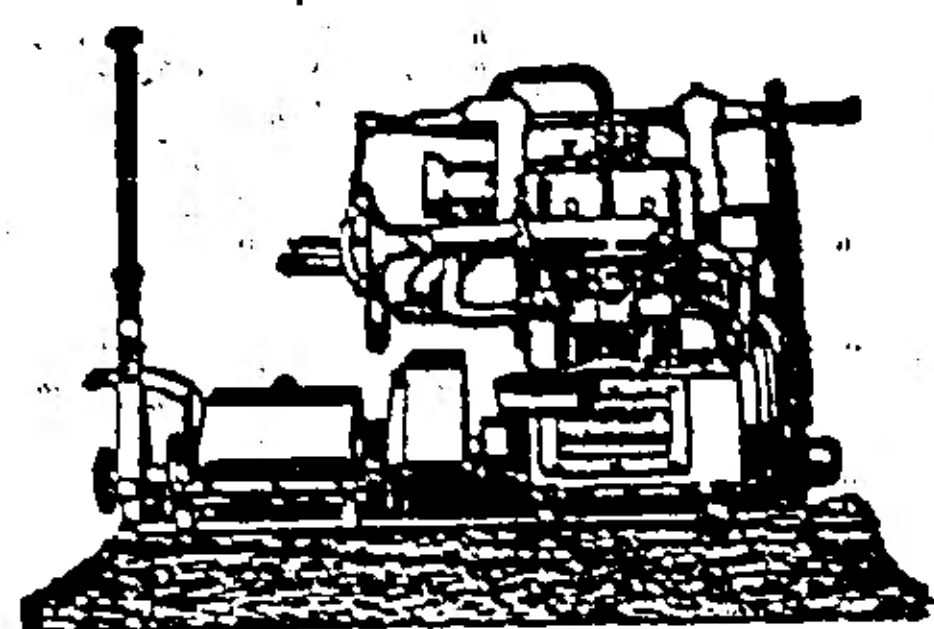
Gymkhana at Happy Valley.  
Theatre Royal—M. C. L. entertainment—9.15 p.m.



[According to an overnight telegram, the U. S. Senate is still wrangling over]



## NOTICES



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## AMPHIBIAN MONSTERS.

### "LORD FISHER'S DREAM."

"Barring cases of congenital idiocy," says Lord Fisher in another racy contribution to the Times, "the years 1902 to 1910 at the Admiralty won the war."

The instances of "congenital idiocy" which he selects are "the sinking of Craddock, the loss of the Aboukir, Cressy, and Hogue, the escape of the Goeben and Breslau, the massacre of the Pegasus at Zanzibar, the sinking of the German fleet at Scapa Flow, the failure to realise northern waters as the decisive theatre of the war, and the passive policy which allowed grass to grow in the corridors of the Admiralty."

The battle-cruisers, or "New Testament" ships, he declares, were received with derision, but in spite of the fact that "the muddlers" who dealt with them did not use them for the purposes for which they were created, so well conceived were they that they proved their value under conditions for which they were never intended.

TORTOISES TO CATCH HARES. Their mission, he maintains, was totally unappreciated till the Invisible sank Von Spee. Before that time "tortoises were appointed to catch hares. Millions of tortoises can't catch a hare. The Almighty arranged the greyhound to catch the hare."

If the battle-cruisers had gobbled up the Goeben and Breslau there would have been no Gallipoli, the Baltic would have been occupied, and Berlin captured by the Russians landing on the Pomeranian coast.

The invasion would have been carried out by "a great armada of 612 vessels, authorised by Mr. Lloyd George as Chancellor of the Exchequer on half a sheet of notepaper, for landing a million of Russian soldiers 82 miles from Berlin."

"Yes! amphibian monsters were definitely fixed in my thoughts—weather proof, shot proof, mine proof, torpedo proof, each holding masses of men and guns and horses and motors, plunging their way like huge hippopotami and then crawling up that shore like Tanks (then unknown), each casting off its marine covering and emerging like the war butterfly from the storm-proof chrysalis."

"The oil engine would have done it: that engine which yet will revolutionise commerce and alter the whole art of sea war. I was dubbed 'an oil maniac' when I was at the Admiralty in 1885."

Seven months before the outbreak of war, Lord Fisher says, he circulated a memorandum in which he printed in capital letters "The submarine is the coming type of vessel for sea fighting." He was literally persecuted, he tells us, for building submarines when he was First Sea Lord, and he relates that when he returned to the Admiralty in October, 1914, "I sent for Mr. Schwab, of the Bethlehem Steel Works and he delivered a batch of submarines in five months, an unprecedented feat, as 14 months was the record till then. These 'H' type submarines built by Schwab went unconquered from America to the Dardanelles, and acted there prodigiously. Mr. Schwab should have been made a duke."

Lord Fisher claims to have discovered Scapa Flow. In 1905, he says, he saw on a chart "a large inland land-locked sheet of water, unsurveyed and nameless. One hour later an Admiralty surveying vessel was en route there."

## SEEKING KRUGER'S GOLD.

### TREASURE BOATS TO BE SALVED.

More than £600,000 in gold, part of the fortune of the late Oom Paul Kruger, is to be sought off the coast of Zululand by a deep sea salvage expedition.

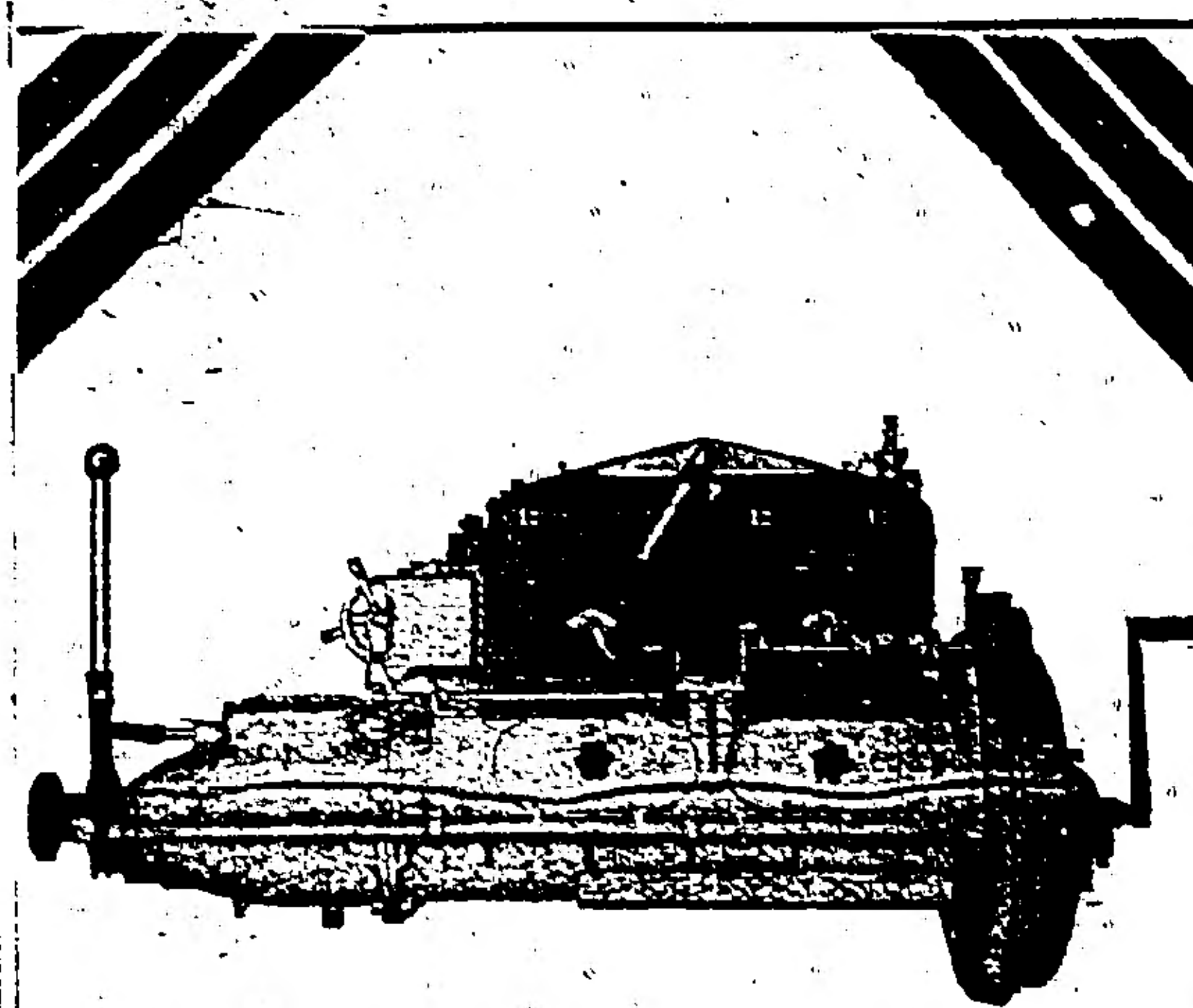
The gold was shipped by Kruger, once President of the Transvaal, prior to 1904 on the bark Dorothea, one of eight treasure ships sunk off the African coast. She went on the jagged rocks of Tenedos reef.

A syndicate once tried to recover the treasure and failed. Salvaging machinery developed since the war encourages the new attempt.

The other vessels sunk off the African coast which will be sought are:

The Grosvenor on the Pando-land coast £1,750,000; Arastion, Maraca bay, £3,000,000; Birkenhead Reef, £300,000; Atlas, East Coast, £700,000; Dorothea, Tenedos island reef, £700,000; Thunderbolt reefs, £500,000; Abercrombie, Black Rocks, £150,000; and Morestein, Jutland Island £140,000.

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## EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

London, Oct. 26.

A discussion on the new status of the Dominions has been excited by a statement by Sir E. Allen in the New Zealand Parliament that an Imperial Order in Council will enable New Zealand to legislate for Samoa. Professor Berriedale Keith in a letter to the "Times" says this would be true under the old regime, but the Dominions have now acquired rights over ex-German territories from the League of Nations direct. He declared that with the disappearance of the colonial status and merely Courts of New Zealand but the Judicial Committee itself would hold that the Dominion Parliament has full authority to legislate for Samoa. Moreover in legislating for Samoa the Dominion Parliament is not subject to the Royal right of disallowance applicable to colonial enactments and no right of appeal to the Judicial Committee exists regarding judgments in Samoan Courts or the New Zealand Court on appeals from Samoa. Professor Keith adds there are other complex problems, whereof General Smuts appears to be conscious, involved in the new regime. He hopes they are already occupying the most anxious consideration of the Imperial Parliament for on their just solution depends the effective maintenance of Imperial unity.

The "Manchester Guardian" in an editorial supporting Professor Keith says it may also be pointed out that if a British Dominion is involved in a dispute with the mandatory people the decision will rest not with Britain, but the League. It adds that the importance of this change is more clearly recognised in America where the Republicans propose that Britain and the Dominions be restricted to one vote in the League Council in matters wherein they are involved. The "Manchester Guardian" fears this is unpopular in the Dominions and says Sir Robert Borden's recent insistence on the Canadian Parliament's right to debate the ratification of the Peace Treaty is symptomatic of the increasingly visible determination of the Dominions to assert individuality to the limits compatible with holding the Empire together. The "Manchester Guardian" concludes that if the League is not to be faced with embarrassments for which no provision is made, it is essential that the new status of the Dominions be fully considered and regularised in the eyes of the world.

## THE RUSSIAN FIGHTING.

London, Oct. 25.

A War Office communique reports heavy fighting on the whole of a seven hundred mile front from Tsaritza to Kieff. The Red armies are vehemently attempting to restore the morale of the troops concentrated on narrow fronts against the important junctions of Voronej and Orel, which were captured, but the success entirely failed to stem the general progress of the South-Russians. The Caucasian army has advanced successfully on the Tsaritza front, taking towns fifty miles north-west of Tsaritza. 1,500 prisoners and much booty were captured. The Don army, advancing on a 120 mile front between Tsaritza and Voronej, progressed to an extreme depth of fifty-five miles, capturing the important junction of Poronino, occupying Novchigla and Shishovka and capturing 500 men, and two armoured trains. Numerous Bolsheviks surrendered. The Volunteer army on Oct. 23 occupied Yelets, 230 miles south-east of Moscow. Denikin has been compelled to withdraw slightly south of Orel but has readvanced on the outskirts. Fighting continues. In heavy fighting east of Orel the Volunteers defeated and scattered eight enemy regiments, capturing hundreds including a Brigade Commander's Staff. Denikin is advancing successfully on Briansk.

London, Oct. 26.

News from Russia is still conflicting. Yudenitch's communique of Oct. 24 and 25 states that he has advanced in the direction of Petrograd as far as Tosno and has captured three places north of Krasnoyarsk. On the other hand, the Finnish Press Bureau understands that the Bolsheviks have taken Tsarkooselo, Ligovo, Pulkovo and Pavlovsky, but this may merely be based on the Bolshevik wireless message cabled on Oct. 25.

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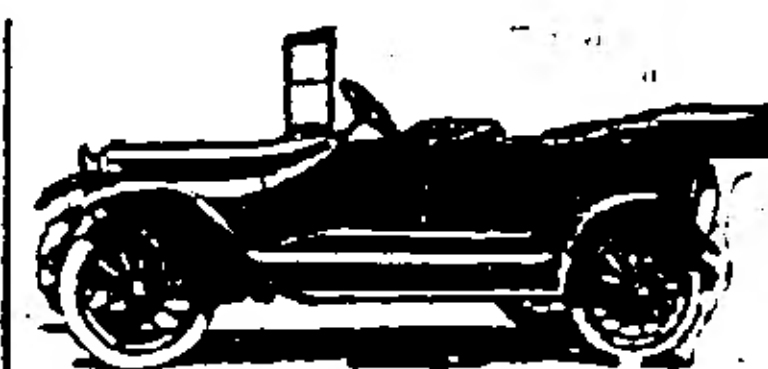
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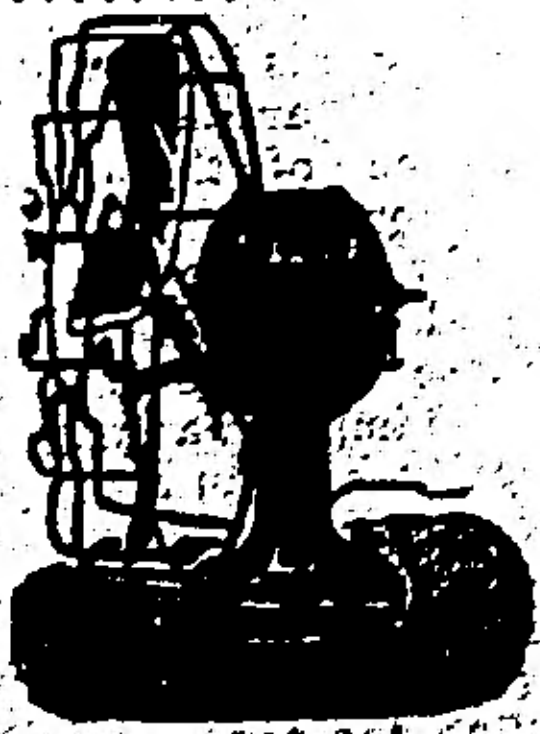
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(Tool Steels &c.) Imperial Light Ltd.

## EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

## THE BALTIC PROVINCES.

Paris, Oct. 26.  
Sir Eyre Crowe has communicated to the Supreme Council a telegram from the British representative at Riga reporting intensified German attacks, urging Allied occupation of Tilsit and Memel and adding that General Eberhardt is even harder to deal with than Von der Goltz. M. Pichon said the departure of an Inter Allied Commission to superintend the evacuation of the Germans from the Baltic Provinces, which is still in Paris, will be hastened, and as General Mangin did not wish to go General Niessel will probably replace him.

Copenhagen, Oct. 25.  
The Lettish Government has returned to Riga where all shops are open and life is normal despite the German bombardment.

## PROPOSED AMERICAN COAL STRIKE.

Washington, Oct. 26.  
President Wilson has issued a statement in which he approves of the Cabinet declaring the proposed strike of bituminous coal-miners unjustifiable and unlawful, calling on the officials of the Unions to recall the strike notices, declaring that law will be enforced and means found to protect the nation. The Cabinet has decided that a new Industrial Conference shall be called and will continue efforts to establish industrial peace.

## INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL.

London, Oct. 25.  
In the International Association match at Belfast before 30,000 spectators Ireland and England drew, 1-1. In the first ten seconds Cook struck the crossbar. The Irish goalkeeper caught the ball but let it slip into the goal. Ferris scored from a penalty for Ireland in the second half.

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## ANDREW CARNEGIE.

## SOME PLAIN COMMENT.

In commenting on the death of the late Mr. Andrew Carnegie, the *Saturday Review* says:—

Can anybody say what good Andrew Carnegie did on earth with the seventy or eighty millions which the piston of his amalgamating genius sucked into his reservoir? He built a Hall of Peace, which was hardly finished when the most sanguinary war in history desolated the world. He scattered libraries up and down the country, which are empty save for a few novel reading idlers. Like all men, Carnegie coveted what he hadn't got. Being quite uneducated, he set a superstitious value on book learning. Had he read a little history, or a few biographies of celebrated men, he would have known that of the men who come to the top nine out of ten are bookless, and owe their success to character, good or bad.

Perhaps the few thousands a year which Carnegie left in legacies were the best use he made of his gigantic pile. Lord Morley, in the course of nature, cannot enjoy his annuity for very many years, but we hope the gift may make them more agreeable than they would otherwise have been. To Mr. John Burns the £1,000 a year will undoubtedly be welcome, and by his sturdy, outspoken common sense, by his independence of party, and by his wonderful gift of language, he has proved himself a worthy recipient, though at the beginning of his career he may have indulged in some play acting, as all demagogues are bound to do. We are very glad that Mr. Lloyd George has got an annuity of £2,000 a year, because it will make him less dependent on the voice of the beast with many tongues. The Prime Minister, who in his boyhood ran about the village, has in the last ten years become attached to the apocalyptic life of the upper classes. In order to keep himself in that luxurious world, he must buy the votes of the masses with the money of the upper and middle classes.

Carnegie's annuity ought to put courage into the Prime Minister's heart, and induce him to throw in his lot with those who are struggling to save their savings, or what is left of them, from the maw of democracy. Great statesmen are lucky in the matter of legacies; their careers attract the sympathy of rich men and women. The luckiest, perhaps, was the elder Pitt. When he was a free lance in the House of Commons, struggling first against Walpole and then against the Pelhams, old Sarah Duchess of Marlborough left him £10,000, which enabled him to "carry on" till he got office. After he had been Secretary of State, and won the Seven Years' War, Sir William Pym sent a cantankerous old Whig, left him an estate in Somersetshire, Lord Rockingham gave Burke £30,000. Mrs. Brydges Williams, if we remember rightly, left Disraeli £40,000, besides the assistance which got from the Bentincks in the purchase of Hughenden.

## GENERAL NEWS.

## GERMAN COMMENT ON LORD BERESFORD.

Berlin, Sept. 8.—The German papers, commenting on Lord Beresford's death, emphasize his services in popularizing the British Navy. They declare that he will live in German remembrance as one of Germany's most inextinguishable enemies. The *Vossische* says:—"He always energetically advocated his country's greatness and the supremacy of the British Fleet. He was an Englishman. The German Fleet, to-day shattered, cannot, however, refuse its respect for a dead adversary."

£400 PROFITEERING FINE.  
Fines of £400, with ten guineas costs, for selling hams at a price exceeding the maximum laid down by the Food Controller, were imposed at Tower Bridge recently on Mr. J. Dottridge, senior partner of the firm of provision merchants trading at Duke-street, London Bridge. There were five summonses, three relating to sales to Beer and Sons, Ltd., of King street, West Smithfield. Mr. Hornby, prosecuting, said the hams were sold at 2s. 6½d. a pound. The proper price was about 1s. 9d. On the five transactions £188 in excess was charged. Mr. Chatham, for the defence, said the hams, which were English, could not be produced at the Food Ministry's price. The magistrate said it was a flagrant case of absolute defiance of the Food Controller.

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## The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1919.

### HOUSE-OWNING AND RENT CONTROL.

One of the means of solving the high rent problem, which affects such a large proportion of the residents of Hongkong at the present time, is for people to become owners of their own residences. That is very simply stated, but the fact has to be faced that the advice is such as, in many instances, to be incapable of fulfilment. These are days when the average person in this Colony finds that it takes him all his time to pay his way, much less to save sufficient money to enable him to purchase his own house. At Home, people are better placed than they are here, in this regard, for there are innumerable facilities, in the way of building societies, co-operative institutions and the like, available to those who have a rooted objection to paying away in rental charges during the course of a few years sufficient money to buy their houses over and over again. If such organisations existed in Hongkong, there would be less heard about high rents and little cause for the pleas for Government intervention to protect householders.

Decidedly germane to this question is the fact that residents of this Colony are, generally speaking, not the mere "birds of passage" that they used to be in the good old days. They are more and more becoming colonists in the true sense of that word—permanent residents who have come to settle down here for a good stretch of time at any rate. Conditions nowadays are such that few of us can hope to amass, as Old China Hands were wont to do, sufficient wealth to enable us to retire with a competency within a few years. And the present state of the Old Country, with the prospect of continued high cost of living, only serves to convert this tendency into a certainty for most of us. According to information which we have gathered, the local Government is considering the question of advancing money to persons desirous of building blocks of flats or bungalows, and if such a plan is put into operation the advances will be accompanied by a regulation governing the amount of rent to be charged. That is so much to the good, but it does not cover the individual who would like to build just one house for himself and who may not happen to possess the necessary cash. On the question of rent control, we understand that the Government does not consider justified in attempting legislation towards this end, and that landlords say that there is no profiteering at present going on in rental charges. These latter could not, then, object to fair anti-profiteering legislation, since they have nothing to hide. However, what Hongkong cannot or will not do, others accomplish, for we know how the authorities at Home have controlled rents with no little success during the past few years, basing the rates on pre-war standards. In the United States, too, even at this moment legislation is taking place on this subject. We will end these comments with a word or two about the latest American plan.

A model Bill has just been drawn up for the District of Columbia as an example to other States. This Bill declares that rental property has become a matter of a public interest, due to conditions arising of the war, and a commission of three is set up which has the right to fix a "fair and reasonable" rental for all property. The proposal to limit profits to ten per cent was rejected, on the ground that it might discourage building. The one sure encouragement to building—the receipt of exemption of taxation on improvements—was not given any recognition by the framers of the Bill, but there is one radical and sensible feature to the Bill—the tenant is given free legal aid if the landlord appeals from a decision of the rent commissioners. The Bill is a step in the right direction in that it declares legally what has been known for long past—that rental property is of vital public interest. As to whether it will stop profiteering—that's the proof of the pudding yet to come.

### MUSICAL JOTTINGS.

[BY "ENHARMONIC."]—

It must be rather discouraging to amateurs like the Deputy Organist of St. John's Cathedral, and the vocalists who from time to time assist him, that the congregations which gather at the periodical organ recitals are so small. On Tuesday there was a mere handful of people present, though the programme presented was worthy of a much larger gathering. Possibly the hour at which these recitals are held—6.15 p.m.—may have something to do with the matter. Most peoples' convenience would probably be suited if the recitals took place say at 5.15 or 5.30, for many business people find it awkward to fill in the time between leaving office and 6.15 p.m.

As to the programme, it was pleasingly varied. Mr. White played better than I have heard him for a very long time, his sympathetic treatment of Caesar Franck's Pastorale being altogether delightful. In the Marche Pontificale (de la Tombelle) he gave us some idea of the capabilities of the Cathedral organ, rendering the piece with much freshness and vigour. Mrs. O. Kong Sing has a sweet voice, not of great power, and her contribution from Gaul's "Holy City" ("Eye Hath Not seen") was pleasing. Hermann Lohr's duet: "The Day is Done" was sung by this lady and Mr. C. Bewley Bird, but I cannot say that the voices blended well together. Mr. Bird's solo effort was Liza Lehmann's "Who Loves not Knowledge?" from "In Memoriam." It was rather above him. He has a voice rather more suited to rollicking sea songs than compositions of this type.

An interesting article on British music appeared in a morning contemporary, the other day wherein some of the best known British composers were mentioned. The author of the article appears to be pretty well conversant with the subject, but I was rather surprised that he left out the name of Field, who is considered, by some, to be the English Chopin.

Field has written some exquisite "Nocturnes" but one rarely comes across copies of his works in the amateur repertoire. Indeed, if the amateur pianist is asked to play a Field nocturne the enquirer is met with a stare of blank ignorance. Yet ask for a selection from one of a hundred foreign composers and you get what you ask for.

Ask any musical enthusiast of British nationality to name ten British composers, off hand, and I guarantee there will be failure in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred. But ask the same question as to twenty foreign composers and the pass will be ninety-nine per cent. Funny, isn't it?

If British musicians are to take their rightful place in the musical world there must be State aid. It must not be left to the generosity of the Clara Butts, the Kubeliks and the Squires who, all credit to them, do help genuine talent financially when it is specially brought under their notice.

In Germany and Austria a boy or girl had only to prove that latent talent existed and the path was made easy. Consequently little inborn genius in these countries went begging for want of proper tuition and training. In England (I speak of some years ago and I have no reason to think conditions are altered now) if a promising pupil applied for tuition at say the Royal Academy of Music he or she was told that acceptance as a pupil could not be entertained unless whole time was given to study. Obviously, that debars the poor man's offspring, who might develop into an Elgar or a Purcell, from being able, in later years, to take advantage of "The Gift."

It is the British way, all over. The training of talent is subservient to the banking account.

That is why we had foreigners holding the majority of the lucrative positions of Professors of the various faculties in our only too few conservatories of music. The case of Wilhelm Backhaus serves as an example.

I wonder how many British musical enthusiasts know that Elgar sold the rights of "Salut d'Amour" for

### DAY BY DAY.

THE SUREST WAY TO PLEASE IS TO FORGET ONE'S SELF AND THINK ONLY OF OTHERS.—*Moncrief.*

The communicable diseases notified yesterday were one fatal case each of enteric and cerebro-spinal fever.

The raffle for a goose in aid of a destitute family in Aberdeen, Scotland, arranged by Mrs. Frost, was won by Ticket No. 36.

The marriage arranged between Commander Frederick Bennett, R.N., of H.M.S. Hawkins, son of Sir Courteney Bennett (late H.B.M. Consul-General at New York) and Lady Bennett, and Mary, elder daughter of the Hon. Henry and Mrs. Hadden, of The Hall, West Farleigh, Kent, takes place at St. John's Cathedral at 2.30 p.m. to-morrow.

With reference to the report which we published yesterday regarding the transference of Capt. Lewington from the San Nambui to the Hok Canton, we understand that Capt. Lewington did not refuse to transfer but that he simply wanted time to make arrangements. He is now on leave and will join the Hok Canton on her return from Kwong-chauwan.

Mrs. Rowlands, living at No. 26, Nathan Road, Kowloon, reports that on the 23rd at 3 p.m., whilst her amah was in the kitchen, she heard a knock at the door and a man said that he had a letter for her. The amah opened the door, and she saw four or five men standing on the landing. One of them seized hold of her, but she called out "Thieves" and the men all made their escape. No arrests have been made.

The Chinese vessel Chik Shang, which arrived in port this morning, had a bit of an experience. On the 12th instant her rudder post was broken by the strong north-east monsoon, when anchoring in the harbour of Hoi Han. The assistance of the Chinese transport ship Kwanghai was called, and the latter towed her out past the Hainan head and channel. The Chik Shang then returned to Hongkong by steaming alone with moderate sea and weather.

seven and sixpence? I suppose he used the money for coffee, for he was the son of more or less wealthy parents. Had he not been perhaps he would still be selling French farwells for seven and sixpence, and like Marie Hall, "basking" in the streets of London until some successful foreign genius took an interest in him.

Just fancy, it was necessary for a Czech-Slovak to provide funds out of his own pocket before one of England's greatest violinists was able to take her rightful place on the concert platform!

Italise it, please, Mr. Editor for the case of Marie Hall is one of the most potent examples of the Britisher's neglect of British talent.

"Enquirer"—I have previously replied to the query. (1) I am sorry, but it appears that your informant does not know what he is talking about. The word "Enharmonic" is a technical musical term (and a very elementary one). It means a change in name but not in note. As an illustration, take, for instance, F natural; (I am sorry, but I have not the necessary type at my disposal for key signatures) the next note, to the right, the black one, is F sharp. That note is also G flat and that is what is termed an enharmonic change. (2) There was no special significance in my adaptation of the term as a *nom de plume*. (3) You can get an instruction book from any of the local music stores. (4) You must have a qualified teacher, but I think you are too old to start learning music. (5) Sight reading, at an advanced stage, is more or less a gift. Granted that you have the natural adaptability for sight reading, it would take you about five years' hard study and practice before you would be able to play moderately simple song accompaniments at sight. (6) No, I am not taking pupils. You could not get a better teacher than Professor Danenberg. The rest remains with yourself, but early tuition is an indispensable factor. I am sorry if I have discouraged you.

### TO-DAY'S BUDGET DEBATE.

(Continued from Page 1.)

inflicting much hardship on the Chinese. At the second reading of the Budget Bill last year, this question was raised, and His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government said that the restrictions were war measures. Now that the war has ended, these vexatious restrictions should end also.

We desire to comment upon the present system of searching passengers leaving or arriving in this Colony by Revenue Officers and by the Police. This question was raised by the unofficial members in this Council in 1916, and although some improvement has since been effected, we feel that much more can still be done. Now that the European Police Contingent is to be substantially augmented, we hope that more European supervision of the search work on the wharves may be exercised.

The unofficial members will unhesitatingly vote for the sum inserted under Miscellaneous Services for special allowances on salaries, but they are of the opinion that if the allowances were to be made retrospective in the case of officers in receipt of sterling salary or exchange compensation, the other civil servants should be similarly treated, as they have suffered in common with their senior officers from the high cost of living.

In the Police Estimates, the addition of 4 European Lance Sergeants, 15 European Constables and 32 Chinese Constables, to bring the Force up to pre-war strength, and in conformity with present day needs, has the warm support of the unofficial members of this Council.

The unofficial members beg to associate themselves with the remarks made by your Excellency at the last meeting in reference to the good work done by the members of the Force and by the Police Reserve during the war.

In the Sanitary Department, we are glad to see that two additional Sanitary Inspectors will be appointed so as to relieve the Police Inspectors at Kowloon City and Shamshui of sanitary duties. We consider that the practice of putting police officers in out-stations on all kinds of extra duties, such as the collection of revenues and the performance of sanitary inspectors' duties, should as far as possible be done away with.

Speaking as a representative of the Chinese, I think that the administration of the lime-washing regulations is not above criticism. Complaints have reached me from time to time that lime-washing done by one's own contractor often failed to be passed by the Sanitary Inspector in charge, even when done twice or three times; while the work executed by certain privileged contractors invariably received better treatment. Such being the case, the Chinese, prefer to have the work done by the Sanitary Department, and to pay for it according to a reasonable scale of charges to be published.

The provision for 10 Vernacular Pupil Teachers in connection with a scheme for training young students for the posts of vernacular masters has the warm support of the Chinese. The scheme not only will ensure a steady supply of vernacular teachers, but should, if properly worked, produce, in course of time, a class of better qualified men for this important work.

With regard to the proposed grant of \$10,000 to the Confucian Society, which, I hope, is an annual subsidy, I am glad that the efforts of the Society and of a few Chinese gentlemen to give the children of the poor at least an elementary education in their own language, have at last received the support of the Government. On behalf of the Society and of the entire Chinese Community, I beg to thank the Government for this substantial grant.

The unofficial members endorse Your Excellency's remarks as to excellent work done during the war by the members of the Defence Corps, and to the valuable services rendered by Major Morgan as its first Administrative Commandant.

Turning to "Public Works, Extraordinary," we notice that many items show neither the original nor the revised estimates of the works in hand or contemplated. To give a few items of more or less magnitude, we cite Nos. 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15 (K), 16 (1), 16 (a), 17, 23, 49, 50, 58 (b) and 69 (a). Unless this information is given, it is not possible to tell whether or not the sum inserted for the first

time for a certain work will be all that is required to complete it. In any case, no business men would like to approve of an undertaking without knowing what its total estimated cost is, even though approximately.

We are glad that at last the mortuary on Hill Road is to be removed to a more isolated site. It is at present hemmed in on all sides by residential quarters, and the news of its proposed removal has been received with satisfaction by the people living in the neighbourhood. I hope that the work may be completed before the next hot season sets in.

In connection with Item 19, Miscellaneous Drainage Works, we call attention to the increase in the number of mosquitoes in some parts of the Island. The cause may be found in the stagnant water retained in manholes after rains or after flushing operations, which serve as breeding places of these insects.

We should like to avail ourselves of this opportunity to call once more to your Excellency's attention to the necessity for a high-power commercial wireless telegraph station, which we should like erected as soon as possible. I would also ask that a site in a fairly accessible locality be set apart for a golf-link for the use of the Portuguese and Asiatic Communities. Representations have been made to my Chinese colleague and myself by several Portuguese gentlemen as well as by the Chinese as to the want of such a place of recreation for them, and I am pleased to state that their request has the support of my unofficial colleagues.

At the second reading of the Budget Bill last year, the Honourable Mr. Landale suggested on behalf of the unofficial members that the Public Works Committee should be enlarged so as to comprise all the unofficial members of the Council. We do not know whether this suggestion has escaped attention or not, but in view of the increasing magnitude of our public works, we again press it to the notice of the Government.

As regards the permanent increase in the emoluments of Government servants, the unofficial members will gladly vote for whatever additional amount that may be considered necessary. For my part, I should also like to see the pay of the lower grades of the Service, such as the Asiatic Police and Revenue Officers, somewhat raised.

Should the estimated balance in favour of revenue be turned into a deficit, as it is most likely to be, by the additional expenditure necessary for payment of increased salaries, and by the expected heavy loss in the Government's rice transactions, we would have the accrued balances of the Colony to fall back upon. If necessary, we could resort to a short-term loan to pay for our works of development, many of which, as Your Excellency said, would be remunerative.

Speaking of the Government action in dealing with the rice situation, I venture the opinion that the monetary loss that may result from it will be more than compensated by the good it has done. It prevented the incipient riots that had broken out from assuming uglier proportions; it had a decidedly steadying influence on the minds of the whole Community; and, though the Government might not have foreseen it, it helped to bring down prices very quickly. Had not the Government bought such a large quantity of rice, and become the people's grocers, as it were, the prices of the commodity would most probably have remained on their high levels much longer than they did; and the public would have had to pay them anyhow. The whole matter therefore resolves itself into this: the Government, as representatives of the people collectively, paid high prices for the rice, which otherwise people individually would have had to pay. As to whether the handling of the buying and selling part has been done in a business-like manner or not, I prefer to defer judgment until the whole matter is closed, and a statement of the transactions is laid before this Council, as undoubtedly it will be. I should add that the views I have expressed are shared by my unofficial colleagues.

In conclusion, we desire to offer the Government our congratulations upon the progress of the Colony as evidenced by the figures in the draft Estimates and in the Financial Statements before us. It speaks highly of the administration, especially to the work of Sir Henry May, and of the Hon. Mr. Claud Severn who for about a year administered the Government with ability and success.

### MR. SHEWAN'S SPEECH.

The Hon. Mr. R. G. Shewan said that whilst he had not originally intended to make a speech on the figures before the Council, the speech of the Hon. Mr. Lau Chu-pak had revived certain memories of old days. He quite agreed with his remarks about the education of little children. He had long had the idea that something should be done for the urchins and waifs of the streets—that they should be fed and given some education. But he was not at all sure that that should be done by the Government. In England one constantly saw everywhere houses with the inscription "Supported by Voluntary Contribution" and he thought that public-spirited men like Mr. Lau Chu-pak and his Chinese colleagues might easily see to that matter. At any rate he would like to see many more institutions than there were at present supported by voluntary contributions. With regard to the smuggling of opium, that was a doubtful question and he thought that that was more of a Chinese question. He was confident that there were some rich capitalists behind the smuggling business and the Hon. Mr. Lau Chu-pak and his friends could give some very valuable information to the Government on that point. At any rate they were much more likely to find out these things than foreigners. With regard to the question of rice he did not think that Mr. Lau Chu-pak should be very hard on the Government. They had to do their best with the crisis, and they were not like Joseph, able to tell seven years before what was going to happen. There was only one matter that he really meant to refer to. He had the honour to serve on the Civil Servants' Salary Commission and he was rather surprised to find on his return that no official announcement had been made on the subject. He presumed that the delay had occurred in London for the Governor stated on April 10 last that the recommendations of the Commission had then already been forwarded to England. No doubt there was some good and sufficient reason for the delay. He was not going to trouble the Government with unnecessary questions, but the matter was one that was vital to hundreds of families in this Colony and the Government officers at Home were fiddling while Rome was burning. As for the recommendations he thought that he might say without revealing any secrets, that they approached the matter determined not to lay themselves open to any charges of extravagance or of over-generosity. They meant to be as economical and as conservative as the Colony's money as they could possibly be, but he was bound to say that on enquiring into the matter they found that the case for the redress of civil servants' grievances was overwhelmingly strong. They had suffered long, silently and stoically from the fluctuations of exchange, the high rents of houses and the general increase in the cost of living in the Colony and they had been put off from time to time with mean shifts such as the so-called duty pay, which was obviously only designed to deprive civil servants of the pension that should have been paid to them. That duty pay had resulted in the fact that there were many men compelled to remain here and work and so injure their health when they should be at Home recuperating their strength. What he thought of the duty pay could better be illustrated by a story. Mr. Shewan then went on to tell of how an American Colonel Mosely, who was Consul here some years ago used to use strong words regarding a certain Mr. Peter Smith and he was warned that he would be prosecuted for libel. To this the Colonel replied "Libel Peter Smith?" The word is not coined that could libel Peter Smith. That was how he (Mr. Shewan) felt about the man who invented duty pay. Perhaps Mr. Messer would say that they had to make the best of it—it was better than nothing. But men in high places should protect their followers and should not take advantages in that way. If he were not in the Legislative Council and speaking before His Excellency the Governor, he would say that they should not try to do a dirty trick. He did not think that he could enlarge on that side of the matter, but referring again to the Commission he said that they intended that everyone who wished should go before them and state his or her case. They examined personally every applicant and in no instance did they recommend any expenditure or any increase.

(Continued on Page 5.)



## TO-DAY'S BUDGET DEBATE.

(Continued from Page 4)

if they did not think absolutely justified by the facts. They did not do anything that was not bare justice and nothing more. Unofficial members could do very little in that matter. They could bark, but as they were muzzled by the official majority, they could not bite. He would go on barking and if Lord Milner's advisers saw fit to modify the recommendations in any serious instance they would do a gross injustice to their fellow servants out here as well as to a body of hard-working, patient men and women.

## MR. ALABASTER'S SPEECH.

The Hon. Mr. Alabaster said:—Sir, I desire to associate myself with the remarks which have fallen from the senior unofficial member of this Council, more especially as those remarks reflect the results of certain discussions which the unofficial members have held on this Budget.

If I may supplement those remarks, Sir, I should like to say that, whilst the Colony and those who have the shaping of its destinies are to be congratulated on the continuous and natural increase of its revenues and on the allocation of so large a proportion of those revenues to development, it is impossible to pass these estimates without some criticism of their faults, the greatest of which are those of omission.

Last year this Council was asked to apply a sum not exceeding \$10,605,345 to the Public Service of the year 1919. For the previous year the sum voted was \$8,386,910. Yet only eight weeks ago we were asked to authorise the appropriation of a supplementary sum of \$5,466,337, to defray the charges of the year 1918, and we now know from Your Excellency's speech on the first reading of this Bill, that these estimates, which are framed to show a balance in favour of revenue of something more than four lakhs, attain that satisfactory appearance only by the studied omission of two factors of expenditure which must be reckoned with during the financial year, the deficit on rice purchases and the emoluments of public servants.

The amount which will be required under the former head you have told us cannot be evenly approximately estimated; it is fairly generally believed that it will run into some millions of dollars.

If, hitherto, unofficial members have refrained from criticising or catechising the Government on the rice question you must understand, Sir, that they have exercised that self-restraint so as not to be in the hands of the Administration in dealing with a delicate and difficult situation. But the time for calling on the Government to give an account of its stewardship cannot be much longer deferred. It is to be hoped, Sir, that means will be devised to prevent a recurrence of the conditions of the last few months, and that the burden of paying the bill will be imposed as far as possible on the speculative interests that brought the situation about.

It is to be hoped, Sir, also that by improving the communications with the Southern district of the New Territories, particularly Lantau and Lamma, greater areas of Colonial land may be put under cultivation so as to enable the Colony to grow its own consumption of rice and other vegetables and fruits. The cultivated acreage at present is only 42,463. It is high time, Sir, that steps were taken to put as much as possible of the remaining 207,778 acres under cultivation on the terrace system at which the Chinese cultivator is such an adept.

On the question of increased emoluments of public servants, which are represented on page 42 of the estimates at a sum of \$465,000, we know from your Excellency's speech and from the footnote on that page that this sum represents merely temporary increases authorised by Colonial Office telegrams in July and September, and that the real sum required for the service of the year will be measurably greater. The reticence displayed by the Administration in refraining from publishing the report of the Commission on emoluments, and from inviting the opinions of unofficial members and the public on that report, is regrettable. But I may say, Sir, that when the Government does come forward with its proposals on that important subject you will not find that the unofficial members will be niggardly in voting whatever sums may be

necessary for the purpose. The Service has many genuine grievances with which the unofficial members have every sympathy. If I may single out one, in particular, it is the lack of adequate provision for passages for public officers and their dependents. Whilst on the subject of salaries, I may point to the somewhat misleading statement which appears in the exchange footnote on page 3. The rate of exchange on sterling salaries is now 4/5ths at 1/9 and 1/5th at 3/4. The last fifth is paid at the Government current rate, with the result that neither the sterling posts nor the compensated dollar posts will receive during the year the sums in dollars stated in the estimates. In fact, they will not receive so much unless the dollar drops in value to 3/4.

Passing from the faults of omission to those of commission in these estimates, it is to be noted that you propose to spend the sum of \$5,351,706, or 35.28 per cent. of the total vote on Public Works and that, of this large sum, no less than \$3,973,700 are to be devoted to Public Works Extraordinary. That being so, it would seem impossible to defend or palliate the reticence which has been displayed by the Administration in disregarding the unanimous desire of the unofficial members, expressed last year, that the estimates for public works should be submitted in the first instance to the Public Works Committee of this Council, which should be enlarged for that purpose, as appears to be the case in Singapore and Penang, by the inclusion of all the unofficial members.

Amongst the most outstanding omissions from the draft estimates are any reference to the Praya East reclamation scheme (a matter of infinitely greater importance than the reclamation scheme for Apichau) and equally important the omission of a reference to the Government's proposals in the matter of housing, with regard to which the situation is, I can assure you, acute. If the item of \$150,000, on page 94, for a hill tramway to Wanchai Gap and the commencement of a road which will eventually reach Shek O and Cape D'Aguilar are intended as contributions to the housing problem, I will observe that, however much these works may benefit posterity, they do not go one inch towards the solution of the problem of the present situation which is urgent throughout the Colony and particularly in Kowloon.

While additional public works will necessitate increases in the staff of the Department charged with the duty of executing them, it is becoming more and more evident that the time has arrived to relieve that overburdened Department of its duties in connection with the sale of Crown Land and conversion of farm lots into building lots in urban areas. These duties properly appertain to the Land Office which should have its own staff of surveyors under the Land Officer. In this connection, and with special reference to the item of \$200,000 which appears at the bottom of page 5 as the estimated premium on land sales, I should like to endorse and repeat every word uttered by the Hon. Mr. Landale, last year, when dealing with the same item, words which you will find, Sir, on page 82 of the Hansard report.

I notice amongst the Public Works Extraordinary, on page 95, that the sum of \$60,000 is to be spent on the reconstruction of ferry piers, which are now a disgrace to the fair fame of the Colony. I note, also, that though a similar sum was voted last year only one-fifth of it was spent. I should like to know the reason. Although Eastern Street ferry pier was removed about a year ago, nothing has been done to replace it. The ferry pier on the new bund opposite the market at Cheung Chau has not been even begun. The ferry piers assigned to the Yau-mat and associated ferries are impossibly narrow and congested. The want of proper supervision of these piers is apparent to everyone who has had occasion to thread his way through buckets of pigwash when leaving, or arriving, at these piers by ferry. Whilst on the subject of ferries, I notice, on page 9, that you count on getting \$118,800 for new licences in connection with the Kowloon (West) ferries. It would be better, in the interests of the community, that fares be reduced and the type of vessel improved than that we should regard these necessary communications as a source of revenue. I fear, however, that not until you have required your Heads of Departments and Executive and Legislative Councilors to travel by the ordinary ferries to Aberdeen, Stanley, Ping Chau and Tai

O, will you be properly advised as to what is really required to bring our ferry services up-to-date.

I am glad to see that you intend to spend \$30,000 on the extension of Coronation Road northwards and a further \$190,000 on other roads in Kowloon, also that it is proposed to lay a larger main from the reservoir filter beds and to improve the system of distribution in that rapidly developing district. With abundance of water in the reservoir, the inhabitants of Kowloon have suffered for years from a difficulty in obtaining water in their houses, which amounts to a positive scandal. It is due to them that the Government should state explicitly the precise nature of the measures it intends to take to remove that difficulty during the ensuing year.

On the Hongkong side, I doubt whether it is worth while to spend \$45,000 on the extension of Lugard Road at the Peak, unless arrangements can be made with the military authorities to release some of the military lands in the neighbourhood of Harlech Gap for building sites. As we are asked to assist the military authorities with a defence contribution of \$2,886,478 out of our revenues for the year, they should at least be reasonable in helping to reduce the housing shortage by releasing undeveloped building sites which cost them nothing and which are not required for military purposes.

With regard to the \$71,481, including a sum of \$24,000, for next year's camp expenses which you propose to spend on the maintenance of the Defence Corps, is it not high time, Sir, that this body of men, who have cheerfully served for upwards of five years without daily pay, without chevrons, and without medals, and who have been combed and re-combed for service in the fighting line until none but those medically unfit or essential to the Colony remain, should be given the privilege, accorded to troops throughout the Empire, of demobilization at the earliest possible moment? As a force they have not proved costly and they have rendered such services towards the protection of the Colony as were deemed necessary, whilst they were always in readiness to do more should the occasion arise. The Government, Sir, in a time of emergency, has traded on their patriotism. I blame them not for that. Every State may legitimately trade on the patriotism of its people in times of emergency, but to continue so to trade when the emergency has passed savours of profiteering and engenders discontent.

I am afraid that, in commenting on this mass of figures, I have detained the Council for somewhat longer than I had originally intended, but before I resume my seat to make way for the hon. member who represents the Chamber of Commerce, there are two or three matters of importance to which I must refer.

Under the heading "Judicial and Legal Departments" I note that the Government proposes to abolish the post of Assistant Interpreter (a European billet) and to substitute a second grade Chinese interpreter. The legal profession views this proposal, Sir, with consternation. The proper administration of justice in this Colony depends, in no small measure, on the quality of interpretation. It is essential that there should be at least two fully qualified Europeans on the interpreting staff and that they should be supplemented by Chinese interpreters of the first grade only. The administration has been niggardly in this respect in the past and the Government has lost, in consequence, the services of some of the best of the Chinese interpreters and translators.

Under the heading "Sanitary Department" you are making provision for only two Sanitary inspectors to do the work at Kowloon City and Shamshuipo formerly done by Police Inspectors. You may not be personally aware, Sir, so shortly after your arrival in the Colony, that when the estimates for the Sanitary Department came before the Sanitary Board last May, four new Sanitary Inspectors, and not two, were recommended. Further, that that recommendation was referred by the Board to a sub-committee, consisting of the President, Mr. Chan Kai-ming, Mr. Bowley and Mr. S. W. Tso, who were unanimous in supporting the recommendation for four, and that recommendation was unanimously agreed to by the Sanitary Board at a meeting on the 10th June. Why then, Sir, is the Board to be flouted and the Department

(Continued on Page 2.)

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## TROOPS FOR HONGKONG.

WILTSHIRES LEAVE ENGLAND.

Telegraphic information has been received at Military Headquarters from the War Office that the 2nd Bn. Wiltshire Regiment embarked in England for Hongkong on the s.s. Trasos Montes on October 18th.

There are on board 8 Married and 16 unmarried Officers, and 29 families of other ranks in addition to the unmarried rank and file.

## "VANITY FAIR."

The short season of "Vanity Fair" which Edgar Warwick is presenting is rapidly drawing to a close. To-morrow will witness the farewell performance of this remarkably clever company of artists, and if there are any who have not yet enjoyed the melody and mirth which they purvey, they are advised to do so ere it is too late.

To-night's bill includes some particularly attractive items. One in particular, which is bound to make a very strong appeal, is a charming scene the subject of which is "Rose Petals." It is an extremely striking and effective number. Another item which will probably prove popular is a toy shop idyll, in which all the inhabitants of the shop come to life in the middle of the night. Leslie Holmes will draw upon his inexhaustible store of humour and all the other favourites will, both singly and collectively, be seen in fresh efforts. The plans are at Montreux's.

## WHY MALARIA RECURS.

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Kowloon Inland Lot No. 1154, comprising an area of 16,945 square feet, with a frontage of 135 feet on Kimberley Road, was put up to auction at noon to-day by Mr. G. P. Lammer. The property was withdrawn as it did not fetch the reserve price.

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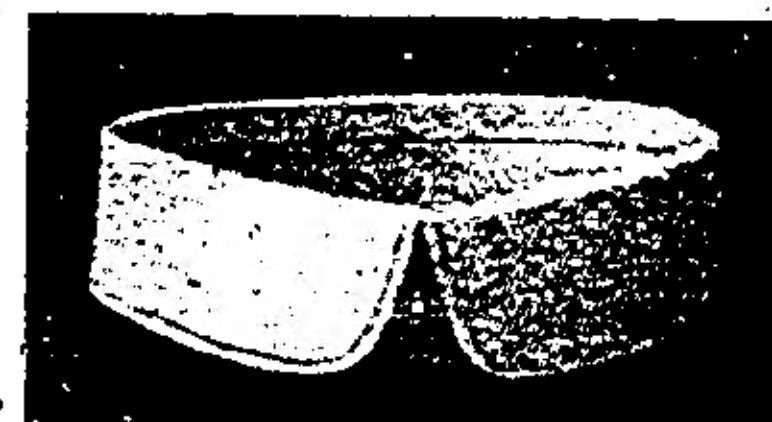
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Prince's Buildings, Ice House Street. Tel. 1934.

## "ELLERMAN" LINE.

(ELLERMAN &amp; BUCKNALL STEAMSHIP CO., LTD.)

JAPAN, CHINA &amp; STRAITS

TO

UNITED KINGDOM AND CONTINENT.

For Steamer Sailing

LONDON &amp; ANTWERP

For particulars of sailings shippers are requested to approach  
the undersigned.

Subject to change without notice.

or to REISS &amp; Co. Canton

Hongkong, 10, Apr. 1917.

THE BANK LINE, LTD.,

General Agents.

## AMERICAN EXPRESS COMPANY.

BANKERS AND FORWARDERS.

ESTABLISHED—1841.

HEAD OFFICE—65 BROADWAY, NEW YORK.

CAPITAL AND SURPLUS—U. S. \$25,000,000.00.

LONDON OFFICES—84, QUEEN STREET, E. C.

6, Haymarket, S. W.

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Branches &amp; Agencies—throughout the world.

General Banking and Foreign Exchange.

We maintain Foreign Trade and Travel Bureau.

American Business a Specialty.

## SHIPPING NEWS.

EXTENDING ITALIAN  
SHIPBUILDING.A huge shipbuilding plant is  
being constructed at Cotrone in  
Italy by the Ansaldo Company.  
The machinery for this plant has  
been manufactured and supplied  
by the United States. The  
Ansaldo Company intends to  
make great expansions in its  
business. The yard at Cotrone  
will build sailing vessels, some of  
which will be equipped with  
Diesel engines.DAIREN PORT IMPROVEMENTS.  
It is reported that the South  
Manchuria Railway Company will  
improve wharf facilities at Dairen,  
work to be extended over a period  
of ten years. The new plan is to  
extend the length of the quay line  
from 9,754 to 18,760 feet, to be  
capable of berthing fifteen million  
tons of ships and handling twelve  
million tons of cargo a year. With  
the improvement of the harbour,  
large steamers will be berthed  
alongside the pier.

ENGINES ON HAND.

It is reported from New York  
that no more reduction-gear  
turbines are to be installed in the  
fabricated ships being produced  
by the Submarine Boat Corpora-  
tion at Newark Bay, and reciprocating  
engines are to replace  
them. There is reason to believe  
that the cancellation of the con-  
tracts for wooden steamers has  
landed U.S. marine engineering  
firms with a number of engines,  
with no ships to put them in.  
Efforts were made to place these  
engines in Europe, but they were  
unsuccessful.

SHIP PROPULSION.

Lord Montagu of Beaulieu has  
written the following letter to the  
Times:—I desire to support the  
statement of Lord Fisher's—  
namely, that ships must be pro-  
pelled in future by internal com-  
bustion engines. The steam  
engine is a very wasteful system  
of producing power from heat.  
Less than 20 per cent. of the  
thermal efficiency of coal is con-  
verted into power. In the case of  
the internal-combustion engine,  
however, the power derived from a  
given amount of coal is doubled,  
and sometimes trebled and quadru-  
pled, compared with that produced  
by an engine using steam. Certain  
new developments are already  
taking place in the application of  
the principle of gas production or  
suction plant derived from roasted  
coal to motor-torries for road pur-  
poses. I have recently tested one  
of these, and consider this  
development alone will revolu-  
tionize all transport, for the cost  
of power will be equal to petrol  
at about a penny a gallon. The  
same principle can be applied  
on a larger scale. *mutatis  
mutandis*, to ship propulsion,  
and must be experimented with  
and installed if our shipping is to  
continue to make profits. The  
rise in (1) cost of labour; (2) cost  
of coal; (3) cost of present pro-  
pulsive machinery, boilers, con-  
densers, engines &c.; (4) cost of  
boiler and bunker space at the  
present high rates of passenger  
and cargo space, has been very  
great, and cannot go on increas-  
ing indefinitely. I firmly believe  
that the continued use of that  
wasteful form of power production  
in ships, the steam boiler and  
engine, will be found impossible  
in the future. The turbine is the  
only form of steam-using machine  
which can perhaps endure  
and then only under certain  
favourable conditions. The  
reciprocal steam-using engine is  
dead, economically and scientific-  
ally. The Navy and our Mer-  
cantile Marine must move with  
the times. "Dodo" like systems  
are too expensive now to continue.  
People grumble at high prices,  
but though high prices of every-  
thing are a serious handicap to  
production by obsolete systems,  
high prices tend to promote  
better efficiency and new  
forms of saving, because  
they compel the scrapping of  
wasteful methods. But, Sir, what  
Government Department, old or  
new—and goodness knows, we  
have enough new Ministries now—  
ever took scientific or expert  
advice in time, and when taken  
carried it out under scien-  
tific supervision? Yes, we  
want, as your leader of yester-  
day says, more "foresight,  
imagination, energy" in our  
Government Departments, our  
merchant shipping, and our  
transport problems. These  
qualities exist to-day in many  
quarters, but I see no signs as yet  
of their being used for the coun-  
try's benefit. Instead, we see  
constant extensions of bureau-  
cratic control, and further drift-  
ing towards ruinous State Socia-  
lism. The encouragement of  
private enterprise, not the crea-  
tion of more officials, is needed.  
The application of science and  
invention to production and  
transport can best be carried out  
without State interference.

## SHIPPING.

## C. N. C.

CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

SAILINGS SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

For	Steamers.	To Sail.
SHANGHAI & TSINGTAO	Tean	2nd Nov. at noon.
SWATOW & BANGKOK	Kanchow	4th Nov. at 10 a.m.
SHANGHAI	Shantung	4th Nov. at noon.

SHANGHAI LINE.—PASSENGERS, MAILS AND CARGO.  
Excellent Saloon accommodation amidships. Electric Light and  
Fans in Saloon and State-rooms. Regular schedule service between  
Canton, Hongkong and Shanghai (thrice weekly) and Tsingtao  
weekly), taking Cargo on through Bills of Lading to all Yangtze  
and Northern China Ports. Passengers are Landed in Shanghai,  
avoiding the inconvenience of transshipment at Woosung.BANGKOK LINE.—Weekly service to and from Bangkok & a  
Swatow.

For Freight or Passage apply to

Telephone No. 35. Butterfield & Swire.  
Hongkong Oct. 30, 1919. Agents.INDO-CHINA STEAM  
NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

SAILINGS SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

Destination	Steamer	Sailing
MANILA	Loongsang	Fri., 31st Oct. at 3 p.m.
SEAI via Stow, Ningpo	Hangsang	Sat., 1st Nov. at d'light.
HAIPHONG via Hoihow	Taksang	Sat., 1st Nov. at 8 a.m.
STRAITS & Calcutta	Yalshing	Sat., 1st Nov. at 3 p.m.
MANILA	Yuensang	Fri., 7th Nov. at 3 p.m.

CALCUTTA LINE.—This line now affords regular sailings to Calcutta, Penang and Singapore.  
Returning from Calcutta steamers proceed via Straits and Hongkong to Japan, occasion-  
ally calling at Shanghai.All steamers have excellent passenger accommodation, are fitted with Electric Light and  
Fans and carry a fully qualified Surgeon.SHANGHAI LINE.—Sailings approximately every five days between Canton and Shanghai, sometimes  
calling at Swatow. Steamers on this line have a limited amount of passenger accom-  
modation, and through tickets can be obtained for Northern and Yangtze Ports via Shanghai.  
Through Bills of Lading are issued to all Northern and Yangtze Ports.MANILA LINE.—A weekly service is maintained with Manila by vessels with good passenger accom-  
modation, sailings from both ports every Friday.HAIPHONG LINE.—Sailings approximately weekly for passenger and cargo, calling at Hoihow when  
indicated.BORNEO LINE.—One sailing per month between Hongkong and Sandakan by a steamer having up to  
date accommodation for passengers.

Cargo taken on through Bills of Lading for Kaitai, Jesselton, Labuan, Tawau and Lahad Dato.

TIENTSIN LINE.—A regular service is run from March to October between Hongkong and Tientsin  
calling at Weihaiwei and Chiao.

For Freight or passage, apply to

JARDINE MATHESON &amp; CO., LTD.

Telephone No. 215. General Managers.

## DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP CO., LD.

HONGKONG &amp; SOUTH CHINA COAST PORTS SERVICE.

Regular Service of Fast, High Class Coast Steamers having  
good accommodation for First Class Passengers. Electric Light and  
Fans in state-rooms and Saloon and Excellent Cuisine.

FOR SWATOW, AMOY AND FOOCHEW AND RETURN.

(Occupying 9 to 10 days.)

Steamships. Captain Leaving.

Haitan A. H. Stewart F.R.I. 31st Oct. at 1 p.m.

Quinnebaug Medina TUES. 4th Nov. at noon.

Arrivals and Departures from the Company's Wharf (near  
Blake Pier).

For Freight and Passage, apply to

Douglas Lapraik & Co.,  
General Managers.THE EASTERN & AUSTRALIAN  
STEAMSHIP CO., LIMITED.REGULAR SAILINGS OF MAIL STEAMERS FROM  
HONGKONG TO AUSTRALIAN PORTS.

Steamers.	For	Date of arrival	Date and Time of departure.
"ST. ALBANS"	Sydney Melbourne via Queensland Ports.	30th Oct.	3rd Nov., at 3 p.m.

The above steamers have excellent accommodation for First and Second Saloon  
Passengers, having been built expressly for Tropical Voyages, and are complete with  
every modern convenience for Ocean Travelling.

A fully qualified Surgeon and Stewardess are carried on each vessel.

For Passage Rates and Further Particulars Apply To:

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & CO.,  
AGENTS.

## AMERICAN ASIATIC S.S. CO.

## S.S. "SLAVIC PRINCE"

Will be despatched for New York via Suez Canal on or about  
1st December.

For freight and further particulars, apply to

SHEWAN TOMES & CO.  
Agents.



## SHIPPING.

O. S. K.  
OSAKA SHOSHEN KAISHA.

SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.  
LONDON & ANTWERP—Monthly direct service via Singapore and Port Said.

"CELESTES MARU" ... Saturday, 8th Nov.  
"ALPS MARU" ... End of November.  
CENOA & BOMBAY—Monthly service. Taking cargo on through Bills of Lading with transshipment at Bombay to Co.'s steamer.

BUENOS AIRES—Rio de Janeiro, Santos, Mauritius, Durban and Cape Town via Singapore.

"SEATTLE MARU" ... Monday, 17th November.

BOMBAY & COLOMBO—Regular fortnightly service via S'pore: "INDUS MARU" ... Tuesday, 4th Nov.

"SAIGON MARU" ... Beginning of November.  
SAIGON, BANGKOK & SINGAPORE—Regular Monthly Service.

"SHISEN MARU" ... Saturday, 1st Nov.  
SYDNEY & MELBOURNE—Monthly service calling at AUCELAND, N. Z. and ADELAIDE.

"MADRAS MARU" ... Middle of November.  
VICTORIA & VANCOUVER—Tacoma via Manila, Keelung, Shanghai, Nagasaki, Moji, Kobe, Yokkaichi & Yokohama.

"AFRICA MARU" ... Monday, 17th Nov.  
KEELUNG via SWATOW & AMOY—These steamers have excellent accommodation for 1st and 2nd class saloon passengers and will arrive at and depart from the O. S. K. wharf, near the Harbour Office.

"KAJIO MARU" ... Sunday, 2nd Nov.  
TAKAO via SWATOW & AMOY.

"SOSHU MARU" ... Thursday, 6th Nov.  
JAPAN PORTS—Moji, Kobe, Yokkaichi & Yokohama.

For sailing dates and further particulars please apply to—  
Y. YASUDA, Manager.

Tel. No. 744 and 745 No. 1, Queen's Building.

## Y. K. K.

YAMASHITA KISEN KAISHA.  
(THE YAMASHITA STEAMSHIP CO., LTD.)

NANYO MARU No. 1

NANYO MARU No. 2

NANYO MARU No. 3

SODEGAURA MARU.

KYODO MARU No. 13

TAMON MARU No. 1

ASOSAN MARU.

CHEIAN MARU.

REGULAR SERVICE FOR

FREIGHT BETWEEN

HONGKONG,

BANGKOK

and/or

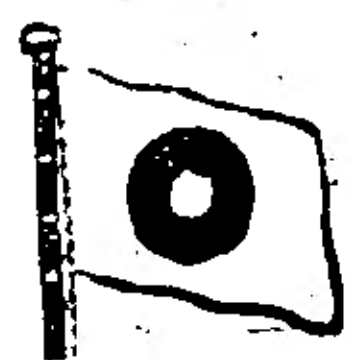
SINGAPORE.

For Particulars Please Apply to—

M. KOBAYASHI, Agent.

Top Floor, King's Building.

Tel. No. 141 &amp; 151.



## KUHARA SHOJI KAISHA, LTD.

KUHARA TRADING CO., LTD.

(Shipping Department).

HEAD OFFICE (Kobe).

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Taking Cargo on through Bills of Lading to Pacific Coasts Japan, China, India, Java, North and South America, also to Mediterranean.

SUBJECT TO ALTERATION WITHOUT NOTICE.

For further particulars apply to—

CHU KYOKU TRADING Co.,  
M. HASHIMOTO,  
General Agents.

Telephone No. 2103.

THE ADMIRAL LINE  
PACIFIC STEAMSHIP CO.

TRANS-PACIFIC FREIGHT SERVICE.  
Operating the following U. S. Shipping Board Steamers.

For SEATTLE, TACOMA, VICTORIA, VANCOUVER.  
(Calling at Shanghai and Kobe.)

"IONIUM" ... About Nov. 8. "ELKTON" ... About Nov. 19.  
"WHEATLAND" ... Nov. 11. "EDRIDGE" ... Dec. 10.  
"ENDICOTT" ... Nov. 17. "EDMORE" ... Dec. 24.

For PORTLAND direct.

(Calling at Shanghai and Kobe.)

"WEST HARTLAND" ... About November 27th.  
"WABAN" ... December 1st.  
"WISHMAHA" ... December 11th.

THROUGH BILLS OF LADING ISSUED TO OVERLAND COMMON POINTS.  
FOR FREIGHT AND PASSENGERS APPLY TO

## THE ADMIRAL LINE

Telephone No. 2417 &amp; 2478

5th Floor, Hotel Mansions.

## SHIPPING.

## THE DOLLAR S. S. LINE.

SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG FOR

VANCOUVER

STEAMER SAILING DATE.  
"MELVILLE DOLLAR" ... 28th November.  
"HAROLD DOLLAR" ... 10th December.

FOR SAN FRANCISCO U.S.S. B.B.

"WEST HARTS" ... 7th November.  
"WEST HEPBURN" ... 28th November.  
"WEST IRA" ... 30th November.

Through Bills of Lading issued to all parts of United States or Canada.

FOR NEW YORK VIA PANAMA.

"GRACE DOLLAR" ... 7th December.

For particulars for freight apply to—

THE ROBERT DOLLAR CO.

GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING  
THIRD FLOOR

TEL. 795.  
792.

Lloyd Triestino

## S.S. "NIPPON"

For Singapore, Colombo, Port Said and Triest.  
about end November.

S.S. PERSIA. S.S. AFRICA.

For freight or passage apply to

DODWELL & CO., LTD.  
Agents.

## NEW YORK DIRECT.

Joint service of the

"BLUE FUNNEL" LINE

(Ocean S. S. Co., Ltd. &amp; China Mutual S. S. Co., Ltd.)

AND

AMERICAN &amp; MANCHURIAN LINE

(Ellerman &amp; Bucknall S. S. Co., Ltd.)

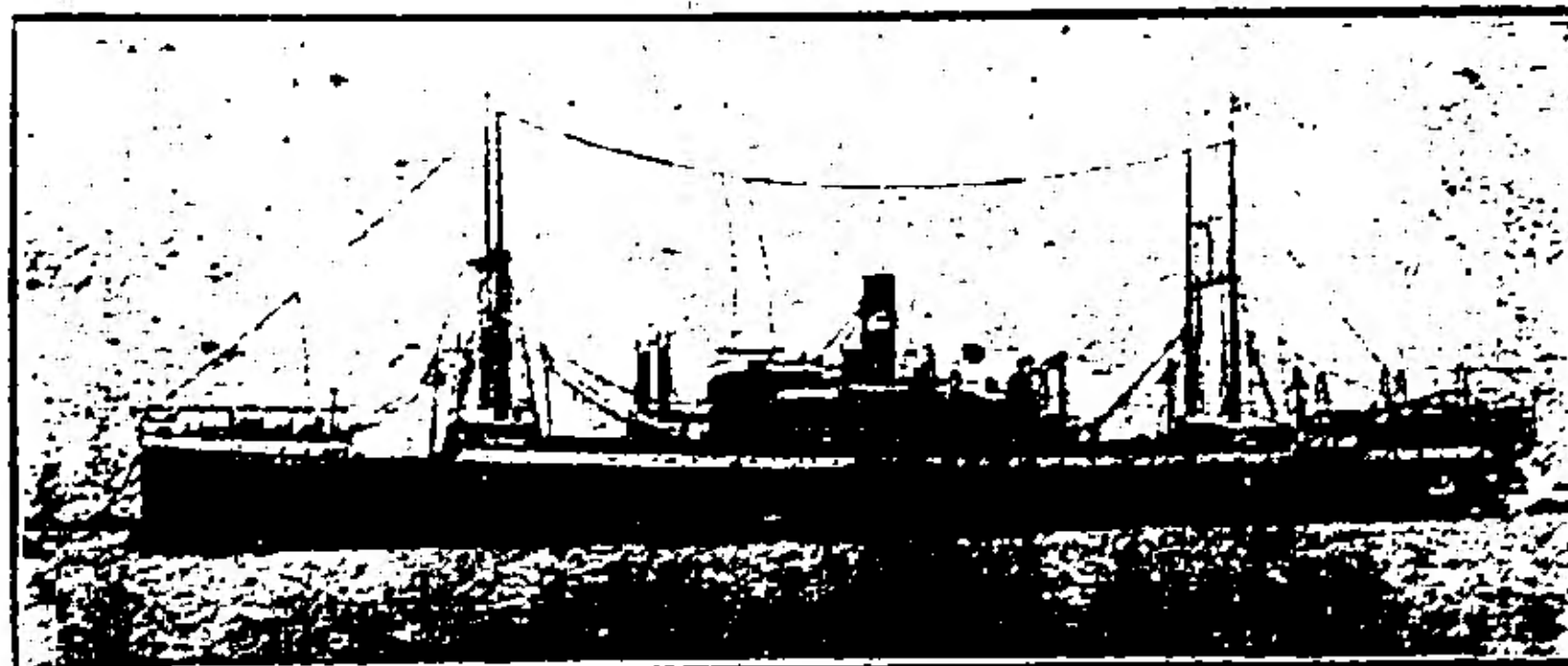
Sailings from Hongkong.

"Eurydamon" ... via Panama ... 3rd Nov.  
"Eurylochus" ... via Panama ... 25th Nov.  
"City of Newcastle" ... via Suez ... 30th Nov.  
"Knight Templar" ... via Panama ... 22nd Decr.

Steamers proceed via Suez Canal or Panama Canal at Owners' option.  
Subject to change without notice.

For freight and particulars apply to

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE or THE BANK LINE, LD, HONGKONG.  
HONGKONG & CANTON REISS & CO. CANTON.



## JAVA-CHINA-JAPAN LIJN.

Regular Fortnightly Service between

JAVA, CHINA and JAPAN.

Steamer	From	Expected on or about	Will leave on or about	For
Tjimanock	Java	in port	4th Nov.	Java
Tjikini	Java	31st Oct.	7th Nov.	Shanghai
Tjiluwong	Java	1st Nov.	8th Nov.	Japan
Tjisalak	Java	1st Nov.	—	—
Tjipanas	Java	2nd Nov.	—	—

ALSO OPERATING

## JAVA PACIFIC LINE

MONTHLY SERVICE BETWEEN

NETHERLANDS INDIA, MANILA,  
HONGKONG & SAN FRANCISCO.

"The steamers are all fitted throughout with electric light and have accommodation for a limited number of saloon-passengers. All steamers carry a duly qualified surgeon. Cargo taken at through rates to all ports in Netherlands-India and Australia."

For Freight and Passage apply to the

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Telephone No. 1574.

York Buildings.

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OFFICES: San Francisco and Seattle, U.S.A., Hongkong, Shanghai, Manila and Kobe.

Operating the following Far Eastern service for account of the United States Shipping Board.

U.S.A. PACIFIC COAST, JAPAN, CHINA AND PHILIPPINES.

FOR SEATTLE

"WEST ISLIP" ... 2nd half Nov.

FOR SAN FRANCISCO

"WEST CACTUS" ... 1st half Nov.

"WEST CAJOO" ... 1st half Dec.

Through rates quoted and through B/L's issued to all points in U. S. and Canada.

L. EVERETT, Vice-Pres. E. A. NELSON, Gen. Agent.

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## THE U. S. SHIPPING BOARD,

## S. S. "WYTHEVILLE"

Will be despatched for

NEW YORK

via Suez

Late November

For freight space and particulars apply to

## THE ADMIRAL LINE

AGENTS.

Telephones

2477 &amp; 2478

5th floor

Hotel Mansions.

## THE AUSTRALIAN ORIENTAL LINE.

HONGKONG TO PHILIPPINES & AUSTRALIAN PORTS.  
SAILING (SUBJECT TO ALTERATION).

Steamer.	Arrives Hongkong from Australia	Leaves Hongkong for Australia.
TAIYUAN	5th Nov.	10th Nov.
CHANGSHA	23rd Nov.	28th Nov.

These steamers are fitted with Refrigerating machinery, ensuring a plentiful supply of ice, fresh provisions etc. and have superior accommodation with Electric Light throughout and Electric Fans in the State-rooms. A duly qualified Doctor is carried. Reduced Fares. Cargo booked through for all Australian, New Zealand and Tasmanian ports.

For Freight or Passage apply to

Butterfield &amp; Swire.

Telephone No. 36.

## PASSENGERS DEPARTED.

Per s.s. Shinyo Maru:—Mr. M. U. Abraham, Mr. E. Beaumont, Mr. J. M. Brito, Mr. C. Van de Biji, Mrs. Christiansen, Mr. P. V. Perkins, Capt. and Mrs. Van der Poel and 2 children, Mr. R. C. Corpuz, Mr. W. R. Cooper, Miss Moa Chamnong, Miss Chiu Suey Mon, Miss Chiu Toy Lun, Mr. Chin Bing Sun, Mr. Chin Mow, Mr. and Mrs. Duffy, child and maid, Mrs. Dong Shee and inf., Mr. M. E. Eisenring, Mr. R. L. Ellington, Mrs. J. E. H. Everts, Miss Annette G. Everts, Mr. and Mrs. Franklin and child, Mr. Fong Ming Jaong, Mr. Fong Bing Hoy, Master L. Gogino, Master S. Gogino, Miss F. Hartwell, Mr. C. H. Hilbert, Mr. W. Ingold, Mr. E. E. Loyner, Mr. Nelson, Mr. R. Neri, Mrs. Okitsu, T. Kansuta, Miss M. Lamyoung, Mr. and Mrs. Lonkhuyzen and 2 children, Mr. Louis Shek, Wah, Dr. E. A. Jakosalem, Mr. Sakichi Kaneta, May, Mr. A. Magsaysay, Mr. M. Mercado, Mr. A. Morrison, Mrs. Mansfield, Mrs. E. M. Mulder, Mr. G. Midzuno, Mr. and Mrs. Mulder and 4 children, Mrs. Moy Shee, Mr. Ng June, Mr. Ng Him, Mr. B. Okamoto, Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Perkins, Capt. and Mrs. Van der Poel and 2 children, Mr. R. C. Corpuz, Miss L. Peissenger, Mr. Nai Pote, Mr. R. H. Robson, Mr. A. Sazada, Mrs. L. Skinner, Mr. I. Skootsky, Mr. W. A. Stone, Miss Moa Swai, Mr. and Mrs. G. Shibuya, Mr. and Mrs. S. Tanaka, Mr. F. Teips, Mrs. R. C. Wolf, Mr. K. Watanabe, Mr. Wong Yi Siu, Hon. Mr. T. R. Yangco, Mr. F. Arca, Mr. P. Dario, Mr. and Mrs. Hichiya, Mr. C. Hock, Mr. D. A. Levy, Mr. A. Monteza, Mr. E. M. Nelson, Mr. R. Neri, Mrs. Okitsu, Mr. Ramsay, Mr. F. Reynes, Mr. Soot Chitt, Mr. V. C. Eugenio, Miss A. Jakosalem, Mr. Sakichi Kaneta, and Mr. B. Nazareth.

## MOVEMENTS OF STEAMERS.

The American & Manchurian Line s.s. CITY OF NEWCASTLE is due to arrive here about 10th November.

The N.Y.K. s.s. SADO MARU (European Line.) left London for this port via the Suez Canal on the 4th Oct., and is expected here on the 13th Nov.

The N. Y. K. s.s. KOSOKU M. (Bombay Line.) left Bombay for this port direct on the 17th Oct., and is expected here on the 7th November.

The Admiral L. s.s. ICONIUM is due to arrive at Hongkong on November 1st, from Seattle via usual Japan ports and Shanghai.

The s.s. ECUADOR sailed from Yokohama for Honolulu on the 17th inst.

The N. Y. K. s.s. KITANO M. (European Line.) left London for this port via the Suez Canal on the 18th Oct., and is expected here on the 24th Nov.

The s.s. CHINA sailed from San Francisco, on October 18th.

The s.s. NANKING sailed from Yokohama on October 23rd, and she may be expected to arrive at this port on October 31st.

The s.s. COLOMBIA sailed from Shanghai for Manila and Hongkong, on Thursday October 23rd, and may be expected here on Monday November 3rd.

The N. Y. K. s.s. KAGA M. (European Line.) left Kobe for this port via Moji and Shanghai on the 23rd Oct., and is expected here on the 1st Nov.

The N. Y. K. s.s. KOTSU M. (Calcutta Line.) left Singapore for this port on the 23rd Oct., and is expected here on the 1st Nov.

The s.s. METHVEN left Vancouver for Hongkong via Japan ports, & Shanghai on the 19th Oct., and is due here on or about the 24th Nov.

The N. Y. K. s.s. KAWACHI M. (European Line.) left Singapore on this port on the 26th Oct., and is expected here on the 1st Nov.

The N. Y. K. s.s. KANAGAWA MARU (Calcutta Line.) left Kobe for this port via Moji on the 25th Oct., and is expected here on the 2nd Nov.

The N. Y. K. s.s. TENSIN M. (Bombay Line.) left Moji for this port on the 28th Oct., and is expected here on the 2nd Nov.

The R. M. S. EMPRESS OF ASIA from Hongkong on the 2nd October, arrived at Vancouver on the 20th October.

The P. & O. s.s. KHIVA left Shanghai for this Port on the 28th instant, with the homeward English Mail, and is due here on the 31st instant at about 7 a.m.

The Ben Line s.s. BEN-CLEUCH from London and Middlesbro, left Singapore for this port on 27th instant and may be expected to arrive here on or about 2nd November.

The Admiral Line s.s. WEST HARTLAND (from Portland) sailed from Shanghai on the 28th inst. and will arrive at Hongkong on the afternoon of the 31st.

The N. Y. K. s.s. TOYOOKA MARU (European Line.) left Shanghai for this port on the 28th Oct., and is expected here on the 31st Oct.

The N.Y.K. s.s. KANAGAWA MARU (Calcutta Line.) left Moji for this port on the 28th Oct., and is expected here on the 2nd Nov.

## SHIPBUILDERS.

## SHIP REPAIRERS.

## BOILER MAKERS.

## FORGE MASTERS.

## OXY-ACETYLENE AND

## ELECTRIC WELDERS.

## MECHANICAL AND

## ELECTRICAL

## ENGINEERS.

## —DRY DOCK—

LENGTH 787 FEET.

LENGTH ON BLOCKS 750 FEET

DEPTH ON CENTRE OF

SILL (H.W.O.S.T.) 34 FT. 6 INS.

## —THREE SLIPWAYS—

CAPABLE OF HANDLING SHIPS UP

TO 3000 TONS DISPLACEMENT.

ELECTRIC CRANE AT SEA WALL, CAPABLE OF

LIFTING 100 TONS AT 70 FEET RADIUS

TEL. ADDRESS:—"TAIKOO DOCK" HONGKONG.

TELEPHONE NO. 22

CALL FLAG: "T" OVER "AMS, PENHANT."

BUTTERFIELD &amp; SWIRE, AGENTS.

HONGKONG, CHINA &amp; JAPAN.



## TO-DAY'S BUDGET DEBATE.

(Continued from Page 3.)

deprived of the services of two much-needed inspectors, one of whom was to have been employed at Shaikwan and one at Quarry Bay?

Lastly, Sir, though there is much I have had perforce to leave unsaid, there is the item under the head of "Education" which shows an estimated increase of capitation grants from \$51,763 to \$71,534, but this is explained by the fact that more schools are to be included in the grant scheme. It does not seem that there has been any increase in the actual grants per head for any particular school since 1910, notwithstanding that establishment charges for maintenance and salaries have measurably increased since that date. Indeed, I understand that, in 1913, the University Local examination grants were actually halved.

All these are matters which I recommend to the earnest attention of your Excellency's Government.

## MR. PARR'S SPEECH.

The Hon. Mr. E. V. D. Parr said:—Your Excellency.—In associating myself generally with what the Hon. Unofficial Members have said, I would like to add I feel certain I am voicing the opinion of the general public in endorsing the recommendations of the Commission appointed by the Government to raise the scale of European pay, more especially the granting of indulgent passages when on leave for the families of officials. As regards the Government's present proposal to spend some \$5,000,000 of current expenditure for Public Works out of revenue, in the event of money becoming easier as it is fairly certain to do sooner or later, I would reiterate the advice of the Hon. Mr. Landale last year to this Council that "the only business way of supplying the Colony with such works is by means of short loans in local currency with adequate sinking funds which would provide the amount required for each year while more equitably distributing the burden of repayment." I believe it might be possible to save considerable sums of this proposed expenditure on Public Works, if the Government could dispense more with contractors' services when the contractors' charges are excessive. I mean by the Government buying their stores in the open market. I understand some such arrangements have been successfully carried out in the Straits Settlements. The Government might also encourage smaller contractors more than at present, by helping them, when they have shown themselves to be reliable, to bigger jobs, thus assisting to distribute the demand for all work in the Colony more equally over the supply. As a member of the Public Works Committee, I have gone exhaustively into this question of contractors' charges, and I cannot persuade myself that the Government are able to get the best terms possible under the present system. We were glad to hear that Your Excellency considers that it has become very desirable to open up new sites for residences in the Hill districts. We urge that the Government prepare surveys and publish development plans of building areas in the vicinity of present habitation centres, more especially at Kowloon, suitable for inexpensive and immediate development, forming the necessary levels and roads before such areas are applied for and taken up. The development plans should show definite reservations for the different communities with a view to determining the type of houses suitable to particular areas, stabilising values by preventing encroachment of a poorer class of property, concentration of and economy in water supply, drainage, lighting, scavenging etc., suitable to the different classes of property, and the provision of modern sanitation with water supply from Government mains for all European dwellings. The plans should also show the areas divided up into building lots of dimensions suitable for individual enterprise varying in size say from 7,000 to 20,000 square feet. It is thought this would be a more efficient way of meeting the housing problem than building flats, anyhow on the Kowloon Promontory which will one day be among the most valuable sites in Hongkong. Housing accommodation is most urgently needed by those residents whose incomes vary from \$400 to \$700 monthly. For such incomes there should be provided houses in which a family can be brought

up, and the monthly rent of these houses should vary from \$60 to \$120. I see no chance under present conditions of building such houses on the Bowen or Wanchai Gap Roads. The Government would save considerably, not less in expense than in trouble, by loaning at a low rate of interest to reputable residents in order to admit of their building their own houses, as is done in other countries and as was wisely suggested to this Council by the Hon. Mr. H. W. Bird last year. So long as private persons can do better with contractors than the Government, and I believe most people will agree that under the present system they can, the Government and the public will both be best served by a system of loans for building purposes to Government plans. The security would in every instance be a sound business proposition. Purchasers of all lots should be required to produce proof to the authorities of their intention to build to approved type within say two years of purchase. Overhead railways could bring residents from any distances to and from the Ferry Wharf, thus efficiently and easily opening up the adjoining districts. It is by such methods that great cities of the Empire have been speedily built and the time is coming for similar developments in this Colony. We appreciate that Your Excellency has not yet had time to make a personal inspection of the various portions of the Kowloon Peninsula and I, therefore, mention one or two matters for the favour of your consideration, as affecting this and future budgets. Swampy areas such as Kowloon-tong and Farm Lot 6 near Yaumati Station to be filled in from the adjoining hills. These works will prove profitable undertakings for the Government, not to mention the general health of the community. The Mortuary at Yaumati to be removed to some more remote site. The Chinese brothels at the junction of Gascoigne and Nathan Roads to be removed. The Chinese latrines on Nathan Road—the best road we have in the Colony—to be removed. Re-arrangement of War Department land and this applies as much in Hongkong as in Kowloon. I do not doubt that these and other urgent matters will be at once apparent to Your Excellency when visiting this district. In the Harbour Department we hope it is intended to re-open the Peak Signal Station, rightly closed down in consequence of the war, but which the shipping as well as the general community would now like to see restored to its former sphere of usefulness. We also hope that the Government will institute wireless position finders and or diaphones as used in European and American waters with most satisfactory results, on Cape D'Aguilar and Gap Rock. This matter, as affecting the China Coast, is to be brought before the Conference of Chambers of Commerce by the Hon. Mr. Dodwell to be held in a few days at Shanghai, and we should like to see this Crown Colony lead the way in this important matter affecting the safety of the travelling public. As regards the continued reduction of revenue from the Opium Monopoly, it is probably not known to one elector or politician in ten thousand, and it might interest some of them to learn, that in spite of the various exchequers having been deprived of the legal revenues from this trade there is as much and perhaps more trade in opium, certainly more illegal trade, than ever before, and we read newspaper reports from reliable sources of whole districts in China under the cultivation of the poppy. The revenues which the Government formerly received so far as the import of opium is concerned have been handed, multiplied ten and a hundred fold, to a vast community of smugglers whose ramifications and organisation are little short of amazing. The substitute for the gradual suppression of the opium revenue is a serious matter affecting the continued prosperity of this Colony, and it would certainly appear that things will go from bad to worse, if the British Government continue to gradually relinquish the control of this trade. It is hoped that Barker Road Hospital has been made permanently available for maternity cases, as originally intended. So long as it has refused these cases it has remained guilty of having obtained funds from the public under false pretences, since the Government has never denied that this was one of the main objects for this Hospital in the first instance. I entirely agree with the Hon. Member for the Justices that we would all like to see the Defence Corps disbanded and re-organised

more in charge of men who have served their Country with distinction at the Front. It would also be a move in the right direction if employers would insert a clause in agreements that young men coming out from Home to their service are expected to join the local Defence Corps. I would respectfully draw your Excellency's attention to the present matched covering of Statue Wharf which detracts from what would otherwise be the most handsome landing place in the Colony. It may be however that this matter is in abeyance pending the decision with regard to a victory War Memorial in the Colony. I must especially endorse the Hon. Mr. Lau Chu-Pak's remarks, particularly as regards the intended joining up of the Kankow railway with the Kowloon Line and would add the completion of the Railway from Shuichow and Changsha. Sooner or later the Canton Chinese officials must appreciate how much the present generation is losing by their failure to complete this work which could be arranged to-morrow if approached in the proper spirit. Prosperity lies at the door of Kwangtung and Hunan for the asking. In conclusion, while endorsing the congratulations of the Hon. the Senior Unofficial Member to Sir Henry May, the Hon. Mr. Severn and his fellow workers, I would also tender to Your Excellency our congratulations on the lucid manner you laid this Budget before this Council, after only a few days' residence among us, which augurs well for the continued prosperity of this Colony to which H. R. H. the Duke of Connaught once happily referred in Hongkong as one of the brightest jewels of the British Crown.

## MR. CHATHAM'S REPLY.

The Hon. Director of Public Works, then dealt at length with the various questions raised by hon. members concerning his Department. Taking first of all the remarks made by the hon. senior unofficial member, reference had been made to the fact that in many cases the estimates for the original cost of work did not appear in the Budget. They must bear in mind that the work of the P.W.D. had been carried on under great difficulty during recent years. It had been impossible to increase the staff and, in fact, a great many men of the staff had been taken away for military service. The work had accumulated but was now being dealt with as rapidly as possible. It had been necessary in many cases that the estimates should appear as they had done, otherwise they would not have appeared in the estimates at all. The hon. member has raised the question of the non-inclusion of any mention with regard to housing accommodation and urged the necessity of providing such accommodation. In a number of cases certain items were concerned directly or indirectly with housing accommodation. With regard to the matter of trench work in connection with 'mosquitoes' the matter would undoubtedly be dealt with at an early date by the Sanitary Board, and then by the P.W.D. With regard to housing, he would state that since 1914 there had been 42 new quarters erected for public servants including two additional quarters on Caine Road, accommodation for nine above the new Magistracy, two quarters on the Praya and others in various places, making altogether a total of 63 new quarters. These, in addition to new quarters now under construction or to be constructed, would make a final total of 126, provided by the Government for its staff. He presumed that it was not expected that the Government should provide quarters for the general public. With regard to the programme of the P.W.D. he would point out that that programme came before the unofficial members. With regard to the Praya Reclamation Scheme, provision would be made for that. With regard to the suggestion that land matters should be dealt with by the Land Officer, the question had been very carefully considered but it must be remembered that in the schemes for laying out areas, making roads, provision for water mains etc. it was thought such work could be better dealt with by the P.W.D. With regard to the matter of pigs, this was being attended to, but would take a considerable time. With regard to water, there would be larger mains laid both in Kowloon and elsewhere to meet the increasing demand. The question of military land on Lugard Road scarcely came within the province of the P.W.D. but he thought there was little

doubt that some satisfactory arrangement would be come to with the military authorities. With regard to the undertaking of work by the Government instead of giving it out to contractors, the speaker referred to the failure of the system when undertaken by the London County Council and also other instances. After dealing with other points, the speaker said the points raised would all be duly considered.

## OTHER REPLIES.

The General Officer Commanding pointed out that the Defence Corps Ordinance expired six months after the declaration of peace, also that about two months ago all men over forty years of age had been required to do nothing but a simple course of musketry. They numbered about 250, and after the arrival of the new regular battalion, in about a month's time, he would consider what further steps would be taken.

The Hon. Colonial Treasurer said that in connection with the assessment taxes the senior Unofficial Member had mentioned three points. The first was that some people were paying a bigger tax in proportion to their rents, the second was the increase in assessed taxes, and the third that some landlords had raised the rent on account of the increase in such taxes. Taxes were fixed under the Rating Ordinance and amounted to a certain percentage of the rateable value, this being calculated on the price that might be reasonably obtained. Referring to the increased estimate for next year he drew attention to the fact that there were a considerable number of new houses and as everybody was aware rents were going up. As regards landlords putting up rents, the increased assessment was slightly over one half per cent. on the rateable value and if the rents were only raised in proportion there would be no discussions. The question of the embargo on the export of silver coins was being considered.

## MR. SEVERN'S SPEECH.

The Hon. Colonial Secretary spoke at considerable length, thanking the members on behalf of Sir Henry May and himself for their remarks and expressing appreciation of the assistance given him especially by Mr. Fletcher the Acting Colonial Secretary. Referring to the points raised, he said the question of rickshaws on Caine Road was under consideration and it was hoped that some arrangement could be arrived at. Regarding hawkers' licenses if they granted many more, the streets would be impassable and the administration of Police work would be hampered. As to the punishment of juvenile offenders some better method was being considered. The Government was in favour of cheaper ferry services. The attempts to obtain these under the contract now running had unfortunately not been successful. But the terms were short and at their expiry the matter would be reconsidered.

With regard to opium revenue, he pointed out that the seven and a half million appearing in the estimates was a figure that had not been reached and it was therefore not correct to say that there had been a reduction of a million and a half. It was quite proper, and in accord with policy, that there should be a reduction in the preparation and sale of opium. He was unable to see that the increase of pawnbrokers' shops tended towards the increase of gambling although it was obvious that with more shops it might be easier to raise more money for gambling. He was not sufficiently acquainted with the subject either to support or oppose the argument. As for prison industries, there had been an increase in the price of materials and consequently smaller revenue. The capital account of the Canton-Kowloon Railway had been closed in 1915 at \$1,500,000, so that capital expenditure now had to appear in the estimates. The question for providing launches for use in typhoons was being considered by a committee. Regarding restrictions on trade, he pointed to the usefulness of the statistics being prepared by the Imports and Exports Department and said that for their continuance some control of trade was necessary. Sheds for searching passengers had been provided and it was possible now to have more European supervision. The question of the Government taking charge of lime washing would be considered. More vocational schools were being instituted, and

(Continued on Page 9.)

## NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

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Hongkong, 30th October, 1919.

## NOTICE

## KOWLOON CRICKET CLUB.

An Extra Ordinary Meeting of members will be held in the Club house on Wednesday November 5th at 6 p.m.

Business:—As per notice posted in the Club house.

By Order of the Committee  
L. J. BLACKBURN,  
Hon. Secretary.

Hongkong, 29th October, 1919.

## TO BE LET.

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## NOTICE

A. S. WATSON &amp; CO., LTD.

Notice is hereby given that an Extraordinary General Meeting of A. S. Watson & Co. Limited, will be held at the Hongkong Hotel on the 5th day of November, 1919, at Noon, when the subjoined resolution, which was passed at the Extraordinary General Meeting of the Company, held on the 27th day of October, 1919, will be submitted for confirmation as a Special Resolution.

"That the New Articles already approved by this Meeting and for the purpose of identification subscribed by the Chairman thereof be and the same are hereby adopted as the Articles of the Company to the exclusion of and in substitution for all the existing Articles thereof."

JOHN D. HUMPHREYS &amp; SON,

General Managers.

Hongkong, 21st October 1919.

## THEATRE ROYAL

SATURDAY Nov. 1st,  
1919.MINISTERING CHILDREN'S  
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H. E. Sir R. E. STUBBS K.C.M.G.

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Sir WILLIAM REES-DAVIES, C.B.,

Justice, Kt.

Commander V. G. GUNTER R.N.

The Hon. Mr. SEVERN, C.M.G.

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## NOTICE

HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB

Members are reminded of the

Half Yearly Meeting called for

on Saturday the 1st November at

12.30 p.m. at the Offices of the

Jockey Club, on the Ground Floor

of the Hongkong Club Annex, Chater Road.

By Order:

G. W. GEGG,

Acting Clerk of the Course.

Hongkong, 17th October, 1919.

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FOR THE YEAR TO COME

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\$1 to start.

SYSTEMATICALLY it will grow to

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## CRICKET.

K.C.C. v. CRAIGENGOWER.

To be played at Happy Valley

on Saturday at 2.15 p.m. The

following have been selected to

represent Kowloon:—J. P. Robinson,

C. I. Stapleton, J. V. Braga,

E. L. Braga, D. M. Goodall, B. D.

Evans, A. de Sousa, R. Taylor, H.

Overy and B. W. A. Wilkie.

K.C.C. "A" v. QUEEN'S

COLLEGE.

To be played at Kowloon on

Saturday at 2.15 p.m. The

following have been selected to

represent Kowloon:—

E. J. Edwards, L. E. S. Hoige,

L. J. Blackburn, D. Blenkiron,

J. M. Jack, F. Lobell, G. F.

Caville, N. L. H. Raiton, F. W.

Richmond, W. T. Elson and D. J.

Purves.

The following will represent

Queen's College:—A. A. Rumjahn

(Capt), Kay Wai-lam, Pat Lik-

choi, S. A. R. Ismail, S. H. Is-

mail, S. D. Ismail, S. A. Ismail,

D. Leung, Ip Kan, J. S. Curran,

and S. Abbas.



NOTICES.

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Size	Non-Skid	Plain	Tubes
28" x 3"	\$18.50		\$4.75
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32" x 3 1/2"	26.50	25.00	5.50
31" x 4"	36.00	34.50	6.00
32" x 4"	38.00	36.50	6.50
33" x 4"	39.00	37.50	7.00
34" x 4"	40.00	38.50	7.50

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TO-DAY'S BUDGET  
DEBATE.

(Continued from Page 8.)

the Chinese had already contributed indirectly through the local shipping requisition scheme. The commercial wireless station was not a subject for this Government, being an Imperial matter. The need for more recreation grounds was recognised. The Government had no objection to all the Unofficial Members serving on the Public Works Committee. On the rice question, he pointed out that apart from all else, the great achievement of the Government was that they had maintained the reputation of the Colony as a free entrepot for trade. As to European interpreters, it was difficult to get efficient men. The suggestion to have diaphanous installed at Waglan and Gap Rock was impracticable, the necessary power not being available, also they were very expensive. The accommodation of Victoria Hospital was being extended.

On the question of housing, and regarding the Kowloon plan which had been carefully considered, it was proposed to go on with the hotel which was essential for the large number of tourists and for those who did not object to hotel life as a permanent residence. With regard to the flats, it was probable that the proposition would be dropped and in place of it sums of money would be lent by the Government at a fairly low rate of interest to companies and others who were prepared to erect dwelling houses of a good type and subject to such conditions as would prevent exorbitant rents being charged. That policy had to some extent been already approved by the Secretary of State and it was proposed to proceed with it at once. The question of the provision of sites for better class houses in Victoria had certainly been met by the proposed construction of the plan for Wanchai Gap. A number of sites on the best part of the Hill District not yet developed was considerable, and he had great hopes of seeing a great number of houses on the slopes of Mount Cameron which would have been there years ago if there had been any means of getting there. The Government would do its best to provide further sites for buildings, and in connection with the advances of money, such provision was essential.

THE GOVERNOR'S SPEECH.

His Excellency the Governor said that the various points raised by the Hon. Official Members had been fairly fully dealt with by the Hon. Colonial Secretary, but he would like to say just a word or two. The Senior Chinese member had referred to the question of the protection in China of Hongkong-registered Companies. That was a matter which he would rather not discuss round that table. It was a matter of considerable international importance and perhaps the less they said about it the better. Another matter involving international bearing was that relating to revenue from opium. The considerable reduction had already been referred to by the Hon. Colonial Secretary. He did not know whether Hon. Members had read the very voluminous document known as the Peace Treaty governing the League of Nations, but if they had, they would find somewhere in the early paragraphs a reference to the opium traffic which appeared to imply that one of the results of the establishment of a League of

Nations would be the suppression of the opium trade, and they could well imagine that with the weight behind it such a measure would prove very effective. They had to realise that they might have to be without the opium revenue. It was possible that the money would go into other pockets, but that was a matter which they had to leave to the League of Nations to consider itself. The reduction which occurred this year must be regarded as foreshadowing an even greater reduction in future years.

His Excellency next referred to prison industries and said that when he went on a visit of inspection a short time ago he was struck by the large amount of entirely useless labour being done. The difficulty, of course, was that there was not sufficient room in the present Prison to develop prison industries. There was only one way of remedying things and that was to shift the prison out of Victoria. That would be a very costly business, but they had to increase their accommodation for the population of the Prison, unfortunately, did not show signs of diminishing. If that shift came off, they would make arrangements for the extension of the prison industries so that a man's term of imprisonment should not be entirely wasted but that when he came out he could earn an honest livelihood if he wished to do so. With regard to the Kowloon Railway and its linking up with the Hankow line, he thought that everybody, inside the Government or outside of it, realised its importance, and he could assure them that the matter had not been lost sight of. But the state of affairs in China did not make it very easy to get anything done—especially in Kwantung Province—but no opportunity would be allowed to slip by.

His Excellency then referred to what he termed "the trivial point" regarding his paying rent for the furniture at Government House, saying that he could not concur with Mr. Lau Chu-pak on that point. He would much rather pay a rent, as it would keep down any extravagance. The same thing applied to those other Government officers, for although the sum at present was small it might be a great deal larger later on. His Excellency went on to reply to the Hon. Mr. R. G. She-wan on the question of Civil Servants' salaries, and explained that the delay in having a reply from the Home authorities was probably due to the fact that the matter had been held up so that he, while he was home on leave, might have an opportunity of becoming acquainted with it. The only other matter he wanted to refer to was the suggestion that the estimates should be referred to the Public Works Committee for consideration before production. He expressed some surprise at the procedure adopted here, saying that he had been used to having Budgets referred to the Finance Committee or a Select Committee after the first or second reading, when the whole of the estimates could be examined. He warned members that that would mean a considerable amount of work, but if any unofficial member would communicate with him he would consider any suggestion made in that direction.

His Excellency then put the second reading of the Budget Bill which was agreed to. The Bill was then passed through its final stages, without any amendments being proposed in Committee, and passed.

At this stage the Council agreed to adjourn until to-morrow morning, as there was a good deal of business to do. The Council rose 1.40 p.m. having sat for over two hours.

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BACK TO PALESTINE.

MILLIONS OF JEWS  
WAITING TO TRAVEL.

At the international headquarters of the Zionist Organisation, in Great Russell-street, plans are rapidly going forward for the settlement of thousands of Jewish people in Palestine.

There is a pleasant bustle in the rooms where the plans are being perfected, and men and women go about with faces alight and voices full of eagerness, because of the return home.

It is especially amongst the Jewish people of Eastern Europe, of Russia and Poland, Galicia and Rumania, that anticipation is running high. In the picturesque phrase of Dr. Weizmann, president of the Zionist Commission, who recently told a *Daily Chronicle* representative something of the ambitions which centre round the return to Palestine, "millions of Jews are waiting, staff in hand, until the opportunity comes for them to travel to their fatherland."

The initial step will be the establishment of a university in Jerusalem. The nucleus of a university is already to hand in the different medical centres in Palestine. Jewish scholars are doing research work in Jerusalem on Jewish history. A considerable organisation also exists in Russia which has for its special work the translation of the classics of all tongues into Hebrew. This organisation will be transferred en bloc to the new university, which at the outset will establish a Jewish University Press.

On the practical side the University will at once take in hand the question of agriculture, by which the main body of immigrants must live. It will also investigate the diseases of malaria and trachoma, which are particularly prevalent in Palestine.

"In the new Palestine," said Dr. Weizmann, "there will be no room for the capitalist or the big landlord. The ideal is to settle the maximum number of people with the minimum grant of land apiece. We want a dense population."

Discussing the practical possibilities with which the Zionist colonies will come to face, Dr. Weizmann said that although Palestine is not much bigger than

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IZAL is obtainable at all the local dispensaries.

Wales it has an extraordinary variety of climates. He summarised the principal districts as follows:—

Coast: May be compared to the Riviera. Will yield everything the Riviera yields.

Vast plain to the south. Barley-growing country. Jordan Valley: Sub-tropical. Cotton, tobacco and bananas may be grown here.

Valley of Esdracron: One of the most beautiful spots in the East. Intensive cultivation will be started here, with Egypt in view as a big market for vegetables.

Hills: To be afforested. Pines, cypress, &c., would also shelter agricultural lands.

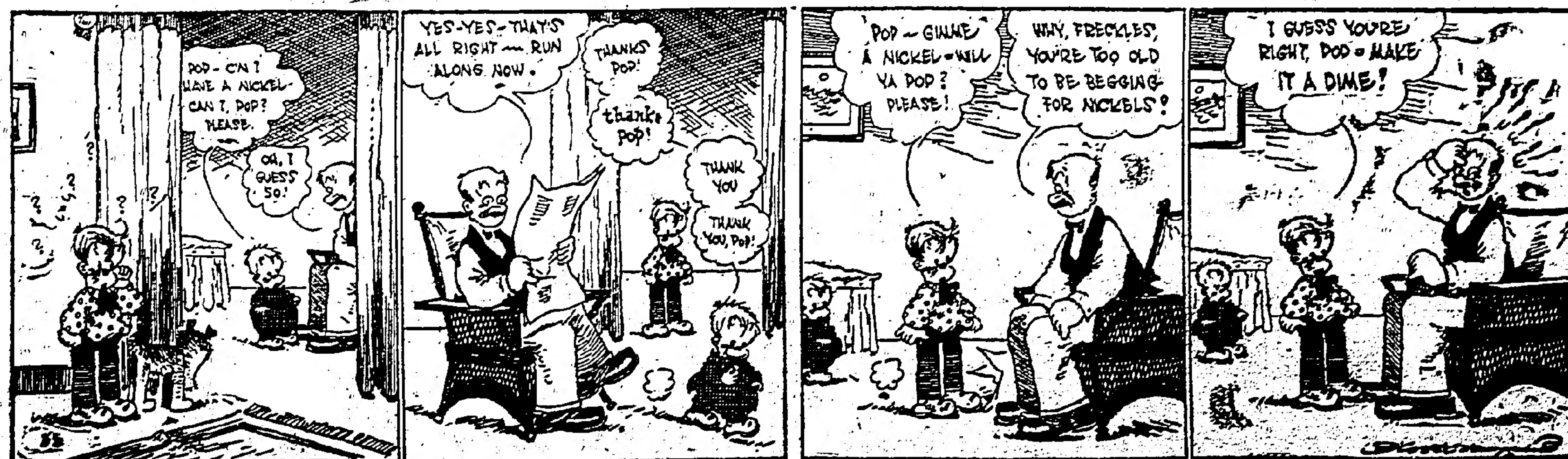
Dead Sea: A source of minerals, particularly potash, a necessity of scientific agricultural development.

Four Chinese were to be charged before Mr. R. O. Hutchison with assaulting two richha coolies employed by Mrs. Matheson. Sergeant McWalter stated that the two coolies took Mrs. Matheson to the golf ground. When they got there, the four defendants, with some others, made a rush to get the golf clubs. The two coolies assisted Mrs. Matheson in keeping them away. Mrs. Matheson also broke her parasol on one of them. After the trouble, the two coolies were returning home with the ricksha, when the coolies were set upon by the four defendants who assaulted them with bamboo poles. The two coolies, in their evidence, said that when they returned home they made a report to their master about the affair, and he gave them a letter to go to the Police Station. Mr. Hutchison discharged the defendants.

FRECKLES AND HIS FRIENDS

He Seems To Think He Has Reached Maturity!

BY BLOSSER



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WISH TO SERVE YOU.

BEST CARS, PROMPT SERVICE.

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RING UP THE FAMILIAR

977.





General Pershing on the bridge of the S.S. "Leviathan," greeting the crowds assembled at New York to welcome him on his return from the war.



General Pershing going ashore at New York on his return from France.



Signor Marconi, the famous wireless telegraphy expert, now appointed Italian Ambassador to the United States.

## LIFE OF THE OYSTER.

### WAR AGAINST CRAFTY FOES.

About 500 men are employed in the oyster industry at Whitstable, and they seem to like it. writes a special correspondent to the Times. From talks with some of them I gather that it is an interesting occupation. They own boats, or shares in boats, and sell their catches to the merchants. When the oysters have been deposited in the merchants' sheds the work of preparing them for distribution begins.

They are brought from the boats in bags of coarse sacking. Along one side of a large shed you may see these bags piled to the rafters. On the other side runs a long bench, inclined from the wall like a writing desk. Here lie the oysters in heaps, having been poured from the bags as they are needed. Men in blue jerseys are busily occupied in sorting them into the different grades. City clerks are not so big and ruddy, but just so they pore over their books at similar desks.

According to grade, the oysters are placed in baskets, and passed along to another desk to be counted. From the counting board they go to men and boys, sitting and standing down the middle of the shed, who pack them into barrels. Each bucket is plunged into a tub of sea water before the packer starts on transferring the contents. The water drips, so that the floor of the shed soon presents a likeness to the deck of a fishing boat awash.

No particular skill is required for the packing of oysters. The great thing is to remember that the deep—that is, the more vaulted—shell should be placed downwards. A damp cloth is put over the oysters before the barrel is secured. From the simple process a general lesson in the keeping of oysters may be learnt. They should not be placed in water, but laid with the deep shell downwards, and covered with a damp cloth. This is the best way to preserve them.

But before it is dragged from its bed under the waters, the oyster needs a good deal of preservation. Its shells look stout enough to the purchaser, who, perhaps, if he is not expert at opening, finds cause for wishing that the Nature had not given this fish so tightly fitting a suit of armour. The vermin which prey on the oyster have ways of penetrating its mail which man has not. They may belong ways, for vermin can wait for a meal more patiently than most men; but they are effectual. The burr, which is a sea-urchin; the five-fingers, which is a starfish; the dog-whelk, and other depredators all possess their own private and particular methods of making the oyster's life a misery and sending it to an early death. It is they that work havoc among the young oyster brood, and, if unchecked, ruin the beds; and it is by constantly working the beds, and consequently increasing the number of oysters for human consumption that the vermin are kept under.

Out of the water the burr resembles a little circular clump of dried grass, without the least capacity for mischief. The weapons with which it wars against the oyster are four minute points in the under part of its anatomy. Bringing these

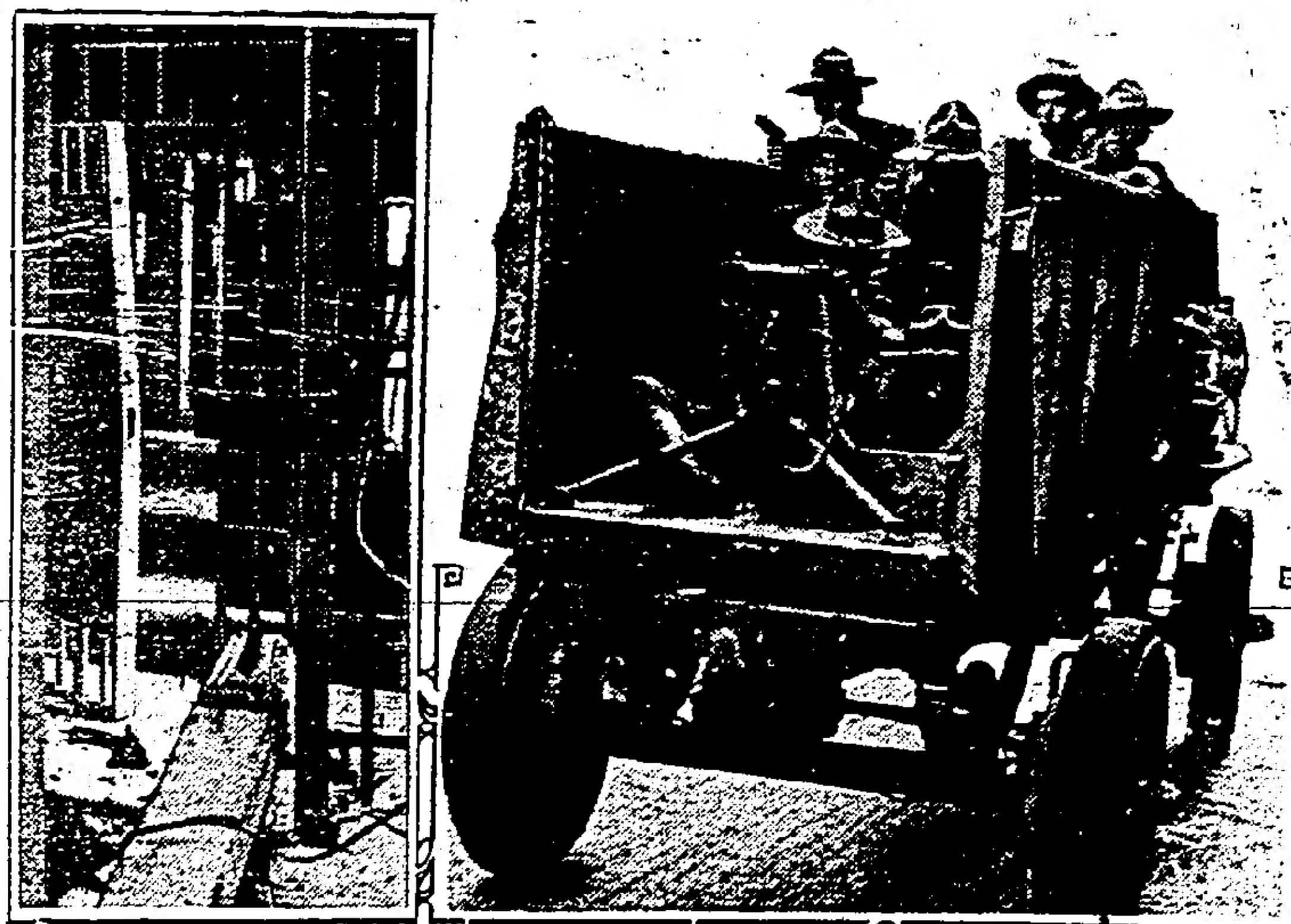
to bear on the shell, it drills through and through, till the fish's armour softens and breaks. The five-fingers deals with its prey after the horrid manner of the great octopus family. In a close embrace it sucks away the oyster's vitality, and finally forces it to surrender through exhaustion. The dog-whelk, like the burr, kills by piercing, and shows a wonderful instinct for selecting that part of the shell under which the oyster's muscle is situated. Its muscle penetrated, the oyster loses all power of defence, and

becomes a mere source of nourishment to the foe. The fishermen keep up a constant warfare against such vermin, and against the weeds which help to choke the oyster-beds. "Should they relax their efforts for any considerable time, a valuable source of supply is lost. The likeness between their task and that of the farmer is obvious. You cannot, indeed, talk to an oyster merchant for long without hearing a comparison of himself to the agriculturist, who also, if he desires a crop, must keep a

close eye on vermin and weeds. Many hundreds of acres of oyster beds have gone out of cultivation for lack of working. The vermin and weeds have won the battle over man who has not found sufficient encouragement to continue the warfare against them. Whitstable Flats, the common oyster grounds or breeding centre, stretch away nine or 10 miles to the east of Whitstable Street, which is not a highway, or even a by-road, but a spit of pebbly sand running out nearly a mile into the sea. Hereabouts the

hundred boats of the Whitstable oyster fleet gently rock on the water, looking as idle as the Ancient Mariner's painted ship upon a painted ocean. It is a fullacious calm. Their occupants are filled with energies in which the present of the oyster is concerned, and thoughts of its future. There are times when everybody eagerly inquires of them for the prospect held out by the "spat." I mean, of course, everybody with the larger interest in oysters, for he who thinks only of how they taste

and what they cost could not recognize "spat" if he saw it. For perception a strong magnifying-glass and a knowing eye are needed. Then may be described on the under side of the oyster shell a beautiful little oyster in miniature, coloured as though it were "trailing clouds of glory." Some day, about seven years hence, given a little luck such as babies require for healthy development, this will have become a big oyster, the glamour gone from its shell no doubt, but pleasant to the taste of man.



Race riots in which seven were killed started in Knoxville, when a mob battered down the gaol door at the left in search of a negro charged with murder of a white woman. (Arrow points to timber used as battering ram). They ended when 1,500 militiamen were detailed to patrol the streets and the machine gun at the right was driven up and down the streets in the armoured truck with a gun crew ready for action. The negro was removed to Chattanooga, but 16 prisoners escaped when the mob searched the gaol.

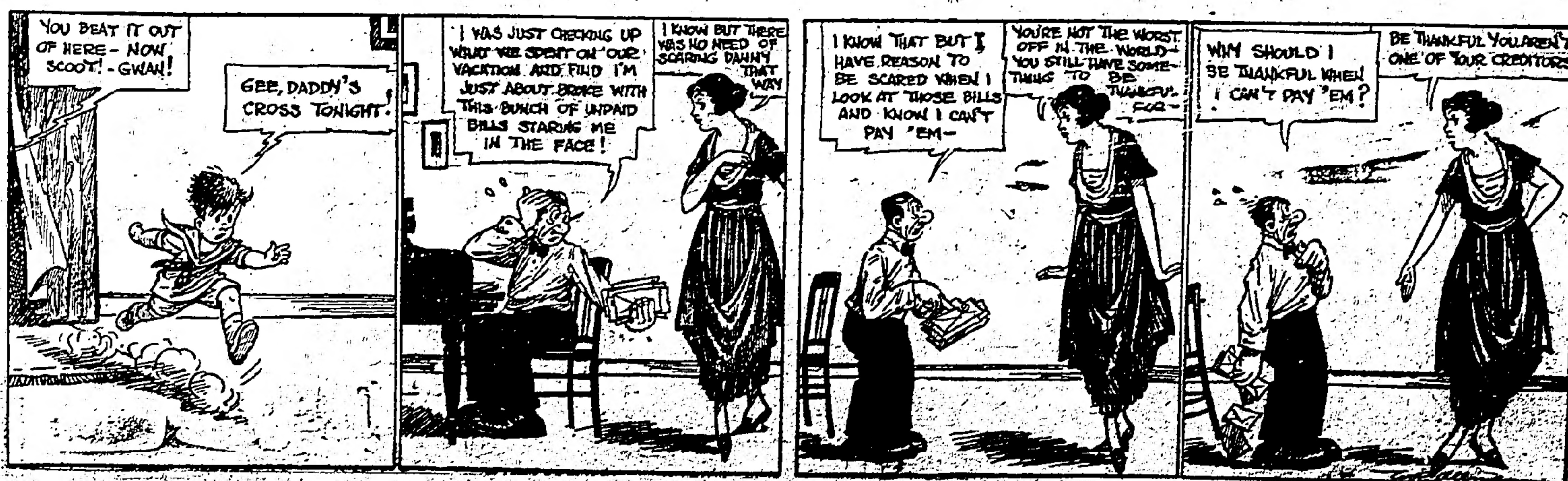


This, the first exclusive photograph of President Friedrich Ebert of Germany, and Frau Ebert, was made in the garden of their home at Schwartzburg, Germany, a few weeks ago. President Ebert was a saddler under the old regime.

## DOINGS OF THE DUFFS.

There Is Always a Bright Side, Tom.

BY ALLMAN.





**BANKS.**



